

The **PRODUCER**

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No. 2



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Official Organ of the
**AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

In the Good Old Summer Time

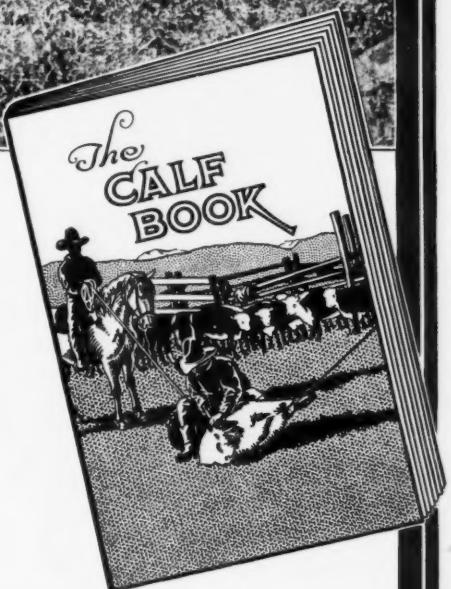
WHILE our PRODUCER friends are making the most of these good old summer days, getting their cattle ready to top the market this coming fall, the *Denver Stock Yards* likewise are devoting considerable time, energy, and money to better assist *you* when the heavy fall movement starts.

Improvements totaling well over \$100,000 to the *Denver Stock Yards* are rapidly nearing completion. Nearly 200 spanking brand-new pens have been added to the cattle division, raising the capacity of this division to 35,000 cattle. Four acres of new, high-grade concrete paving has been laid, water and sewer lines have been extended, and new feed-mangers and water-troughs have been installed.

Scale facilities are undergoing numerous changes which will greatly expedite the handling of all transactions in the cattle division. Three entirely new sets of twin scales are being installed in new locations, so arranged as to alley approaches and exits as to avoid congestion, yet handle smoothly a large volume of business in quick time.

All of which is being done for *your* benefit, in order that *you* may market *your* cattle more profitably at this Greatest of Western Live-Stock Markets.





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SCIENCE has found a way to defeat Blackleg without a battle. You win against this deadly disease before it even gets a start.

The fight requires but one "shot." This goes into the calf's shoulder with a vaccine syringe.

There will be no Blackleg loss—if you are careful to use the genuine

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It confers positive life immunity with one dose. A patented process of chemical sterilization makes it non-toxic and powerfully potent, without harmful effects on the calf.

The Franklin brand is safe, sure and inexpensive (14 cents a dose). Sold by drug-store agencies; otherwise direct.

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General Offices, Denver Laboratory, Amarillo
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FORT WORTH EL PASO ALLIANCE
MARFA KANSAS CITY WICHITA
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CALGARY

Misinterpreted Facts

THE *Kansas City Drovers Telegram* asks: "Do you know that the heaviest breaks in hogs on the various open markets in the year 1928 were on the days when the receipts direct to the packers were largest?"

This statement implies that heavy direct shipments caused the breaks.

The *Drovers Telegram* overlooks, or at least fails to record, the fact that the dates which it quoted as those of the *heavy breaks* were *invariably the dates of the heaviest receipts at the open markets*.

Nearly always peak receipts at the country's stock yards are accompanied by lower prices. This is especially true when receipts are so far beyond current consumptive needs that they compel accumulation of stocks.

The *Telegram's* query and its implied answer are due to misinterpretations of fact. Price breaks are not the result of direct marketing, but of receipts that are heavy in relation to consumptive demand.

Edson White
President

ARMOUR AND COMPANY
U.S.A.

Write for free literature explaining reasons for and results of direct marketing. Address Armour's Livestock Bureau, Chicago.

THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

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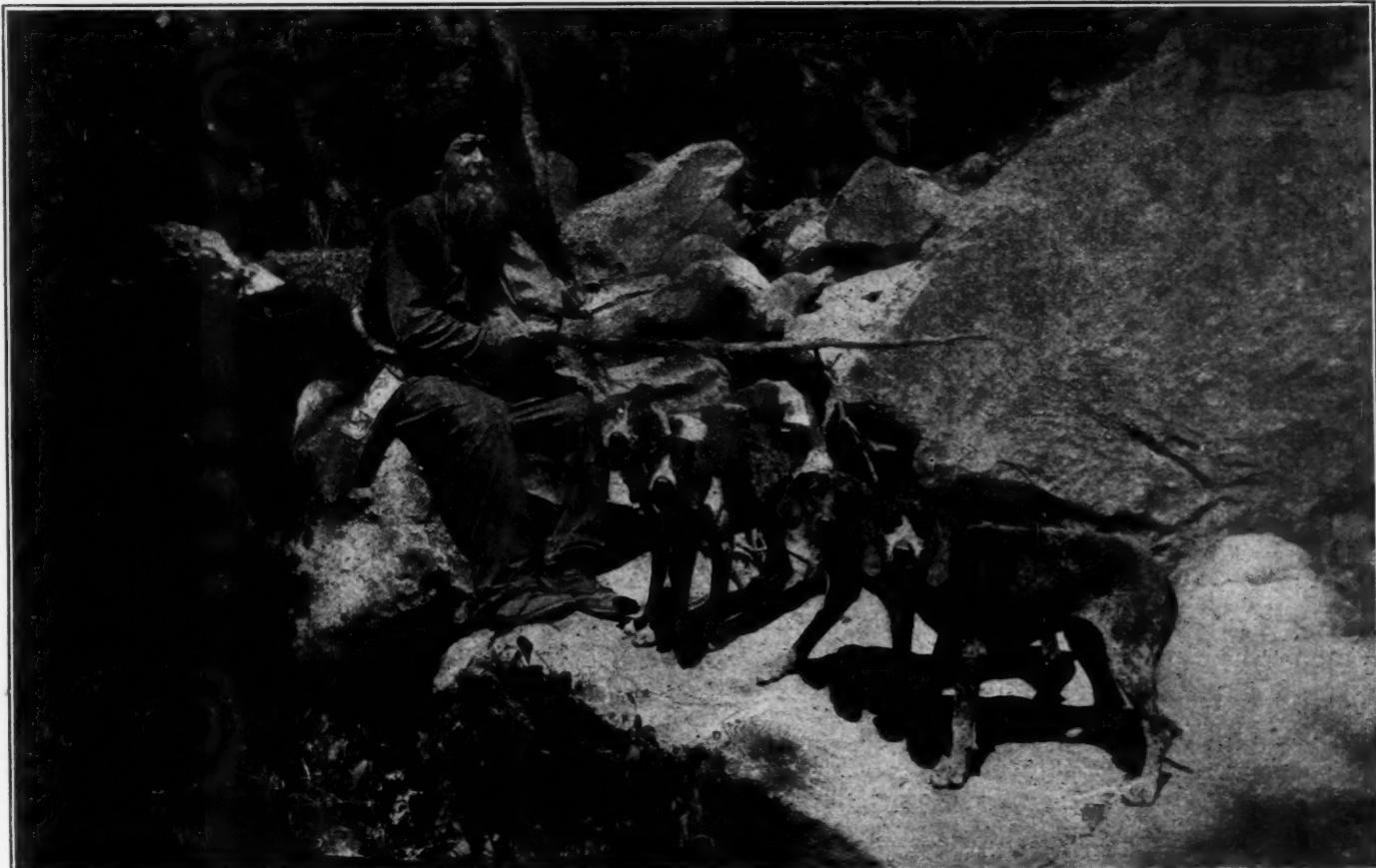
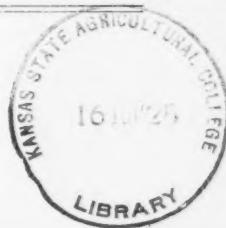
Bears and Lions

BY B. V. LILLY

Silver City, New Mexico

[The writer of this article is a famous Nimrod, known to all ranchers throughout the Southwest. For upward of twenty years he has been engaged in hunting those inveterate foes of the stockman, the bear and the mountain lion, whose every

mood and habit to him are an open book. And so successful has he hunted them that many districts where "kills" of live stock used to be an almost daily occurrence are now practically rid of the predators. As a follower of the animal's track



THE AUTHOR AND HIS FAMILY

whose patience and endurance have no limits, and as an unfailing shot when the quarry at last is cornered, Mr. Lilly probably has no equal in the United States today.—EDITOR.]

THIS ARTICLE is intended to describe the destructiveness of bears and mountain lions on stock ranches. I will take up my hunts as they come to mind, and relate things as I remember them.

I will begin by going back to March 9, 1910, when I was in my camp at the head of the Animas Mountains. I started out that morning at about nine o'clock. I found the tracks of two lions—a full-grown female and a half-grown animal. The tracks seemed to be about a week old. I had no hounds, but an Airedale dog. I also found the track of a full-grown brown bear. I could tell that he was brown, because I found brown hair on a bush that he had rubbed on. I worked on the track until dark. That night I went to my camp. Next morning I was out at daylight. I soon tracked the lion up. He was eating off the head of a sotol. Sotol is a vegetable, and at times bears eat them. This fellow had eaten of two or three heads, and had gone into a thick brush—so dense that it was impossible to see a bear even at a distance of twenty steps. I soon found the bed where he lay that night; but he was gone. I followed his track all day, keeping a close watch for him. The Airedale dog asked to be excused when he smelled the bear's bed. He stayed away behind me—no bear track for him!

I tracked that bear until dark, when I built a fire and lay down for the night. That night the bear had gone down a branch of the river for a long distance, wading in the water. I finally found where he had come out and had made a bed and lain down in it. Then he struck out for another day's travel. He went to another big hole that he had scratched in the ground, bit down bushes, and covered over the hole with the brush. He seemed to have stayed in that place for over a week, but went on when he found me tracking him. He went by where he had killed a two-year-old steer. It seemed that he had had quite a tussle to kill the steer. The small bushes bore evidence that he had wallowed the steer more than usual for a bear, as they generally kill cattle right on the spot. Two of his toes were off on one front foot, which showed very plainly on the tracks he made. He never ate one mouthful of the steer, but struck out for Old Mexico. I followed him until I found he had crossed the line, when I came back and waited a couple of weeks.

Exciting Lion Hunt

While waiting, I went out to buy a couple of burros. I had a young man keeping camp for me. I sent him to a neighbor's house for something. He carried my gun with him, and forgot to bring the

ammunition back to camp. So I took an empty shotgun along, thinking I might trade it for burros. The man I went to see did not want to sell. In coming back to camp, I made a search for lion tracks. I had a young, unbroken hound dog with me. He seemed fond of running rabbits, so I let him chase rabbits. The first thing I noticed, he was running down a hill as fast as he could go, and making a growling noise. I ran over to see what he was after, and found that there was a full-grown female lion running him. When I saw the lion, she was humped up and standing still. I tried to run up on the lion and hit her with the empty gun. She broke away, with me and the dog after her. She ran up a tree, jumped out, and ran up another tree. I chunked her with rocks. She treed again. I chunked her out. She ran up another tree. I chunked her out the fifth time.

The rock I threw at her struck her in the mouth. I noticed she was a little stunned. It was a very low tree. I sprang up in the tree and grabbed her by the tail, and jumped out holding her tail in my hand. We hit the ground all in a bundle together. The lion struck out, running down grade, with me gaining on her. I had a fairly good stick in my hand. It was a green pine stick. I struck her on the back as she was passing around the top of a small pine log that fell down on the ground. She sprang at me. I struck her over the head with the pine stick and broke the stick in two. She kept coming. I broke the stick five times over her head. She came so fast that I grabbed up a large rock that would weigh about six pounds, and held it tight in my hand. I pounded her on the side of her head, and she fell at my feet, apparently dead. I had a small knife in my pocket, with a blade two and a quarter inches long. I tried to stick this into her heart. I felt I had succeeded in doing so. She seemed to be dead. I sat down, and the dog came up. I wanted him to bite her a little. The dog was afraid to come up when I was chunking her, and he did not come near at any time while I was fighting. So I made him bite her. I thought it would do the dog some good. He took two or three bites on her hind legs. Up she came and made for me. I grabbed up a big rock, and gave the same kind of a blow on the side of her head as she grabbed at me, and downed her. I pounded her on the head until I felt the skull was crushed. I then reached her heart with the little knife. She measured six feet eight inches long—a full-grown female mountain lion. I had no ammunition and had a hand-to-hand fight.

Pressing Soldiers into Service

In two or three days I went down to the United States soldiers' camp at the border of Old Mexico. I told the man in charge of the soldiers that I wanted to go over on the Mexican side to hunt up a big brown

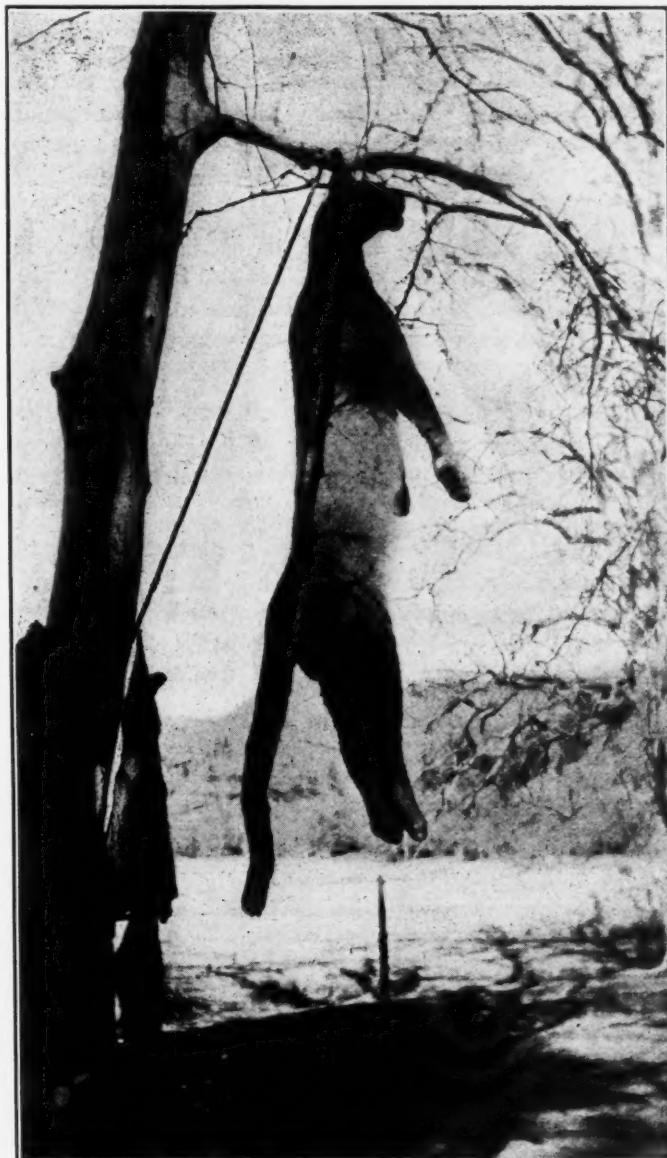
bear that I had been trailing on the Diamond A Ranch several days before. He said he would send two or three men over with me. So I went down, and the man and myself struck out. I found the bear's tracks, and I was anxious to find a good place to trap him. About two o'clock that afternoon the man said to me: "I've got all of the bear-hunting I want. Let's go to camp. You go, and I will find a good place to catch that bear before I leave these mountains." Then he said good-bye. About three days later I went to their camp and told them I had two bears hanging up in the mountains, and if they would give me three or four men and horses, we would go and bring the bear meat out. We brought out two bears that night.

The next time I went down I killed a female lion, and I trapped the big brown bear with two toes off his front foot. He had traveled over a rough country, dragging the trap over rocks. He had worn the chain and clog off the trap. I took his track and followed him for several days, killing him late Saturday evening. He was started on Diamond A Ranch on March 9, trailed for three days in the United States, and then went into Old Mexico. I killed him making his way back to the Animas Mountains. I chased him in three states. His front tusks were worn to the gums, both above and below. That was why he had trouble killing cattle. He was the oldest bear I ever killed.

I killed the largest black female bear that I ever saw, and the oldest one. The four large tusks that are usually called the "holders" were worn off, the same as on the large brown male bear. The front teeth in both the upper and the lower jaws were worn off down to the bone. The female was killed thirty miles south of the Animas Mountains in the State of Chihuahua, Old Mexico. I sent the hides and skulls of these two bears to the United States Museum at Washington, D. C., with the data attached to each one. The male was not extra large for that species. The female was larger than any black bear I have found in any locality. I killed eleven mountain lions and thirteen bears. The bears were all large and of four varieties—grizzly, big red the color of a sorrel horse, black, and brown. I also killed some large wolves.

Mexico Abounds in Game

I spent three years in Old Mexico. I did well in every section where I hunted, and was treated nicely in every locality I have ever worked in. In the latter part of July, 1908, I crossed the river at Eagle Pass, Texas, and went to a mining town called Mouskiss. From there I went up to a ranch called La Palma. I killed several very fine bears and mountain lions there, and had a real good hunt. I hunted north up to Para Blanco Ranch. There I found bears, deer, lions, and turkeys. That was my headquarters.



A MURDERER LYNCHED

From there I hunted north and east to the Rio Grande River. I killed some very fine black bears, turkeys, two kinds of deer—black-tail and white-tail—antelopes, and javelinas or peccaries.

North of the city of Chihuahua there are some of the largest wild turkeys I ever saw. They are said to be the largest species of wild turkey in the world. I know of several ranges where they can be found. I killed several of them when I was in that section. Old Mexico has wonderful hunting localities. It is such a large country that a man has to be an expert to know how to make a successful hunt in the first place. He would have to look up the feeding-grounds and watering-places of the game. The game may be plentiful one season and scarce the next. The way to overcome these troubles is to do like the wild game—travel over the locality and see where the food and water will be good enough to attract wild game, and find out if there has been any game raised in the

locality that season. Year-olds do not run away as badly as older ones.

In 1912 I moved from the Animas Mountains to Clifton, Arizona. I heard that there were some grizzlies along the head reaches of the Blue and Frisco Rivers. I went up the Blue River till I came to a man's house. There I camped that night. He told me I might find some bears and lions. He rode up that way a few miles with me. I found two lion tracks as I was traveling along. He directed me the way to go to find water and a camping-place. I had five burros and five hounds with me. I saw seven places where calves had been killed by lions—say, in about five weeks' time—and saw three different-sized lions' tracks, but nothing fresh enough to let the dogs go on.

Searching for Grizzlies

I camped on what was called the Little Blue the next day. Some cowboys came by my camp. I asked them if there were any grizzly bears in that section. They said that some bears came through once in a while, and that the lions were catching calves and colts. I told them I was after a big male grizzly bear for the museum at Washington, and that I had heard there were some on the Blue Range. I told them I would look around and see if there was a big one in that section. They said there were some big bears, and that they were killing cattle on the ranges. I asked them if they would pay bounty on bears and lions. They said there were three men who would pay some bounty—about five dollars each for lions. I made a good big search for grizzlies, and found bear tracks, but no grizzlies. I found four lion tracks and six bear tracks. I sent a man out to see if they would make up a bounty. They failed to organize. I hunted that week, killing six bears and four lions. I carried the hides down to Clifton, but they would pay no bounty, as I was by myself when I killed them, and the law said I would have to have a witness.

When I came back from Clifton, I was ready to go after a big bear for the museum. I thought I could not find a man who could act as a witness, as I hunted afoot and he could not be there when the lion was killed. The men got together and arranged with me to kill the lions and bears for them. The police jury met and took the bounty off the bear hides, to keep me from killing them out. The bounty on a bear and lion hide was ten dollars each. So a few of the ranch men gathered up and started me on the lions and bears. This was the Fourth of July, 1912. I killed forty-seven lions and bears on that range that season, and they commenced to raise colts. The lions killed cattle of all sizes. I saw seven calves and yearlings, mixed, killed on the Little Blue that looked as if they were killed inside of five weeks, eaten on by lions, and covered up. When I was trailing the four lions I

killed, and carried their hides to Clifton, I found one full-grown cow killed, one three-year-old heifer, and four calves. They had been killed inside of four weeks. Some of them were freshly eaten on, and were covered up with leaves and straw. The six bears had three grown cows they had been eating on. Some had been killed two weeks, and one was fresh. I could find carcasses and old bones in nearly every canyon. Bones of animals that were killed one or two years ago would show when they were left on rocks or in dry places. Old stock's bones last longer than those of young stock.

Lions Breed Twice a Year

The mountain lion raises two sets of kittens inside of twelve or fifteen months. They make a number of kills that are never found. They kill in a rough place, and hide their kill by dragging it to a thick place and covering it up well. We may say that the Alma section started the lion-killing of New Mexico in 1912, keeping it up until 1916.

In the spring of 1913 I hunted on the ranges of the people who were paying me a bounty on bears and lions. That year I killed forty-eight bears and lions—about the same number of each. The snow stayed on late, and the bears killed a great many cattle. On the third day of April I killed the largest grizzly bear I ever bagged. He measured nine feet from the end of his nose to the end of his tail, eight feet around his body, and four feet eight inches in height. His hind foot was twelve inches long and seven inches wide. His front nails were five inches long, measuring from the top side. The skull measured eighteen inches in length. His ankles measured fourteen inches around, both rear and front. The back of his claws at the top of the nail was as broad as a man's finger. The hide is in the museum at Washington and belongs to me. I want one thousand dollars for it. I followed him three days in the snow, which was waist-deep to as shallow as knee-deep. I never had one mouthful to eat, and had on only a common pair of blue cotton pants, a blue shirt, and a light cotton sweater. I built fires, and sat up all night, and kept from freezing. I wounded him several times at very long range, running from me. He finally charged me from a dense jungle of spruce and got within fifteen feet of me before I saw him. He was only three feet away when I shot him down. It was a test of endurance as well as a narrow escape. I rolled up in his hide and kept as warm as if I was in a stove. The hide stretched twelve feet long and eight feet wide when green. Nearly all animals' hides will stretch out longer than the body measurement when stretched as soon as they are skinned.

[To be concluded next month]

PARTY PLATFORMS

FOR THE INFORMATION of such of our readers as are influenced in their choice of candidates by official party declarations, we print below, in parallel columns, a brief summary of the principal "planks" adopted at Kansas City and Houston, arranging them arbitrarily according to their presumed importance to agriculture:

REPUBLICAN

Agriculture

"We promise every assistance in the reorganization of the marketing system on sounder and more economical lines, where diversification is needed, and government financial assistance during the period of transition."

"The Republican party pledges itself to the enactment of legislation creating a federal farm board clothed with the necessary powers to promote the establishment of a farm marketing system of farm-owned and controlled stabilization corporations or associations to prevent and control surpluses through orderly distribution."

"We favor adequate tariff protection to such of our agricultural products as are affected by foreign competition."

"We favor, without putting the government into business, the establishment of a federal system of organization for co-operative and orderly marketing of farm products."

"The vigorous efforts of this administration toward broadening our export markets will be continued."

"The Republican party pledges itself to the development and enactment of measures which will place the agricultural interests of America on a basis of economic equality with other industry to insure its prosperity and success."

Tariff

"We reaffirm our belief in the protective tariff as a fundamental and essential principle of the economic life of this nation."

"We realize that there are certain industries which cannot now compete successfully with foreign producers because of lower foreign wages and a lower cost of living abroad, and we pledge the next Republican Congress to an examination and, where necessary, a revision of these schedules, to the end that American labor in these industries may again command the home market, may maintain its standard of living, and may count upon steady employment in its accustomed field."

Taxes

A promise of further reduction is made "as the condition of the treasury may permit from time to time."

Merchant Marine

The Jones-White bill passed at the last session of Congress is affirmed. It is made clear that the party does not believe in government ownership or operation of vessels, and stands for sale of government lines to private owners. The Jones-White bill provides for government maintenance only until sales can be effected.

Waterways

It is proposed to carry systematic development of the Mississippi system to speedy completion.

Labor

"We believe that injunctions in labor disputes have in some instances been abused and have given rise to a serious question for legislation." The platform would grant the right of collective bargaining, restriction of immigration, and continuance of the present high wage scale.

Immigration

The doctrine of restrictive immigration is affirmed in a plank which urges Congress to correct defects in the present law, for humanitarian reasons, and to provide an effective system of examining immigrants in their home countries.

DEMOCRATIC

Agriculture

"Farm relief must rest on the basis of an economic equality of agriculture with other industries. To give this equality, a remedy must be found which will include, among other things: (a) credit aid by loans to co-operatives on at least as favorable a basis as the government aid to the merchant marine; (b) creation of a federal farm board to assist the farmer and stock-raiser in the marketing of their products, as the Federal Reserve Board has done for the banker and business man; (c) reduction through proper government agencies of the spread between what the farmer and stock-raiser get and the ultimate consumer pays, with consequent benefits to both; (d) consideration of agriculture in the formation of government financial and tax measures."

"We pledge the party to foster and develop co-operative marketing associations through appropriate governmental aid. We pledge the party to an earnest endeavor to solve the problem of the distribution of the cost of dealing with crop surpluses over the marketed units of the crop whose producers are benefited by such assistance."

Tariff

"The Democratic tariff legislation will be based on the following policies: (a) the maintenance of legitimate business and a high standard of wages for American labor; (b) increasing the purchasing power of wages and income by the reduction of those monopolistic and extortionate tariff rates bestowed in payment of political debts; (c) abolition of log-rolling and restoration of the Wilson conception of a fact-finding tariff commission; (d) duties that will permit effective competition, insure against monopoly, and at the same time produce a fair revenue for the support of government. Actual difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, with adequate safeguarding of the wages of the American laborer, must be the extreme measure of every tariff rate."

Taxes

A sinking fund sufficient to extinguish the nation's indebtedness within a reasonable period of time, without harassing the present and next succeeding generations.

Merchant Marine

"We favor the transfer of these [steamship] lines gradually to local private American companies. Lines that cannot now be transferred to private enterprise should continue to be operated as at present. We are unalterably opposed to a monopoly in American shipping."

Waterways

"We favor deep waterways from the Great Lakes to the Gulf and to the Atlantic Ocean. We favor the fostering and building up of water transportation through improvement of inland waterways and removal of discrimination against water transportation."

Labor

"We favor the principle of collective bargaining. Labor should be exempt from the operation of anti-trust laws. No injunctions should be granted in labor disputes, except upon proof of threatened irreparable injury and after notice and hearing."

Immigration

"Laws which limit immigration must be preserved in full force and effect, but the provisions contained in these laws that separate husbands from wives and parents from infant children are inhuman and not essential to the purpose or the efficacy of such laws."

REPUBLICAN

Prohibition

"The people, through the method provided by the Constitution, have written the Eighteenth Amendment into the Constitution. The Republican party pledges itself and its nominees to the observance and vigorous enforcement of this provision of the Constitution."

Foreign Policies

"We indorse the proposal of the Secretary of State for a multilateral treaty to renounce war.

"The Republican party will continue to support American rights in Mexico, as elsewhere in the world, and at the same time promote and strengthen friendship and confidence.

"The marines now in Nicaragua are there to protect American lives and property, and to aid in carrying out an agreement whereby we have undertaken to do what we can to restore and maintain order and to insure a fair and free election.

"This government definitely has refused membership in the League of Nations and to assume any obligations under the covenant of the league. On this we stand. We have most usefully assisted by co-operation in humanitarian and technical work undertaken by the league, without involving ourselves in European politics by accepting membership."

Foreign Debts

"We steadfastly opposed and will continue to oppose cancellation of foreign debts. We have no desire to be oppressive or grasping, but we hold that obligations justly incurred should be honorably discharged."

Philippines

Silent.

DEMOCRATIC

Prohibition

"Speaking for the national Democracy, this convention pledges the party and its nominees to an honest effort to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment and all other provisions of the Federal Constitution, and all laws enacted pursuant thereto."

Foreign Policies

"We declare for a constructive foreign policy based on these principles: (a) Outlawry of war and an abhorrence of militarism, conquest, and imperialism. (b) Freedom from entangling political alliances with foreign nations. (c) Protection of American lives and rights. (d) Non-interference with the elections or other internal political affairs of any foreign nation. This principle of non-interference extends to Mexico, Nicaragua, and all other Latin-American nations. (e) Rescue of our country from its present impaired world standing, and restoration to its former position as a leader in the movement for international arbitration, conciliation, conference, and limitation of armament by international agreement. (f) International agreements for reduction of all armaments. (g) Full, free, and open co-operation with all other nations for the promotion of peace and justice through the world. (h) In our foreign relations this country should stand as a unit. (i) Abolition of the practice of the President of entering into and carrying out agreements with a foreign government for the protection of such government against revolution or foreign attack, or for the supervision of its internal affairs, when such agreements have not been advised and consented to by the Senate. (j) Recognition that the Monroe Doctrine is a cardinal principle of this government promulgated for the protection of ourselves and our Latin-American neighbors."

Foreign Debts

Silent.

Philippines

"We declare that it is now our liberty and our duty to keep our promise to these people [the Filipinos] by granting them immediately the independence which they so honorably covet."

THE MARKET OUTLOOK

BY JAMES E. POOLE

BEEF SHORTAGE may or may not exist, or even impend. From the standpoint of the man who initiates the beef-making operation, the term "shortage" is objectionable. Be that as it may, a statement that there is an actual scarcity of cheap beef will probably not challenge much contradiction; otherwise the slim midsummer spreads between common and choice cattle would have been impossible. The same narrow gap prevails in the dressed-beef market. A similar condition has never existed before at this season. A year ago choice steer carcasses were wholesaling in Chicago at \$19 to \$20.50 per cwt.; at present it is a \$21.50 to \$22.50 market, or \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt. higher than last year. On the other hand, common carcasses worth \$12 to \$14 a year ago are now on a \$17.50 to \$19 basis. Common cow-beef carcasses, selling at \$10 to \$12 a year ago, have advanced to \$15.50 to \$17—an appreciation of \$5 to \$5.50 per cwt.—while good cows have been marked up only \$4 to \$4.50, to from \$18 to \$19.50, compared with \$14 to \$15 a year ago. Evidently there is a limit to the prices at which consumers will buy good beef. That limit reached, they switch to cheaper grades. No system of branding, or otherwise designating quality, will change the

economics of this situation. Dearth of common beef may be only temporary, but relief will depend on the available supply of western grassers, the advance guard of which will soon be knocking at the market gate. One fact not generally understood is that there are few grass cattle over the entire territory east of Chicago, which from the infancy of the industry has dumped into Atlantic seaboard markets a heavy tonnage of grass and low-grade beef from early fall until November, in competition with western grass cattle. Fourteen-dollar steers mean high-cost beef by the time the product reaches the ultimate consumer in package shape, such cost being prohibitive to many. It accounts for abnormally high prices, in a relative sense at least, for the cheaper grades of steers and all kinds of cows, heifers, and bulls, incidentally forcing killers to rob feed-lots and pastures by grabbing light, thin-fleshed steers that have heretofore had little competition from killers at this season.

An interesting comparison of cattle values is furnished by current figures. During the week ending June 23, average cost of slaughter steers at Chicago was \$13.84 per cwt., compared with \$11.38 a year ago and \$10.46 during the same week of the three previous years. Owing to a large proportion of Nebraska cattle, average weight was 1,021 pounds,

against 996 last year, although the previous three-year average weight was 1,034 pounds. The proportion of choice and prime bullocks this year was 33.5 per cent, against 29.2 last year and 18.5 on the three-year average; while the proportion of common steers was less than 2 per cent, against 3.7 on the three-year average. Stock cattle during the same week of 1928 averaged \$10.76 per cwt., against \$8.14 last year, despite the fact that no fleshy feeders—1,000 pounds or more—went to the country, beef demand being so urgent that killers grabbed all the so-called "two-way" steers.

Statistics are not always dependable, especially when erroneously interpreted. Probably the most reliable set of figures emanating from government sources concerns slaughter. Market receipts involve so much double counting as to be worthless. During the eleven-month period ending May, 1928, cattle slaughter under federal inspection, as compiled by the Bureau of Animal Industry, aggregated 8,334,503 head, against 9,250,773 during the corresponding period ending May, 1927. These figures indicate heavy reduction in beef production, accounting for current high cattle prices. Hog slaughter, on the other hand, shows a substantial increase, the aggregate for the period ending May, 1928, being 44,269,381, against 38,397,820 during the previous corresponding period. Sheep and lamb slaughter shows a slight gain—11,874,414 for the eleven-month period ending May, 1928, compared with 11,835,866 during the previous period. May and June cattle slaughter was heavy, owing to free marketing on account of high corn cost, which is likely to be reflected in restricted beef production during the latter half of the year.

Exports of meats and meat products during the five-month period ending May, 1928, aggregated 182,055,536 pounds, against 159,549,849 pounds last year. This was mainly pork, as beef figured to the extent of only 4,258,720 pounds. Exports of animal fats aggregated 391,214,284 pounds, against 360,852,117 pounds. This was mainly lard, of which 261,073,691 pounds were exported. This does not indicate that the European market for American hog product has closed like a jack-knife; on the contrary, there is every reason for assuming that, unless Argentina, which is getting into swine production, becomes a stronger competitor, export trade will increase. European pork production expanded recently, in response to cheap American corn—a vanished influence, for the present at least—and will naturally be followed by reduction of European swine herds. The equalization-fee principle, if correct in theory, would, in practice, dump into the European market the North American corn surplus, whenever such a condition exists, at a price below domestic cost to feeders, enabling European hog-growers to compete advantageously with Corn Belt growers in meat production; the logical effect being restriction of our export trade. Should we attempt to dump surplus hog product across the Atlantic, European governments would protect their agrarians as we have protected our cattle-growers, either by declaring an embargo based on disease, or by imposing inspection restrictions designed to have the same result—practical exclusion. Even now German swine-growers are protesting admission of cheap American lard and meats, demanding relief legislation.

* * *

Difference of opinion, which is solely responsible for horse-racing, in the opinion of Mark Twain, exists in the sheep game regarding expansion of lamb production. Undoubtedly the cycle is at the expansion stage; to what extent will not be determined until the 1928 crop has been marketed by next May, when feed-lots are depleted. It is axiomatic that production responds to price, with more or less celerity according to the nature of the operation. In the case of hogs, such response is rapid, by reason of the fecundity of the species;

in the case of cattle, expansion is slow. Lambs have been high for several years in succession, and it is logical to assume that production is increasing. Evidence of this was detected in the prolonged marketing of native lambs of the 1927 crop, which ran into January, upsetting the calculations of Corn Belt feeders who had expected possession of the December and January market. There is a distinct tendency toward improved methods in growing native lambs, and in Michigan toward winter-feeding of a considerable percentage of the crop—an innovation made possible by adopting western methods, which is not to be ignored. Much land in the central western and eastern states is reverting to pasture, and considerable of this is in sweet clover, which furnishes excellent feed for ovine flocks. Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and particularly the northwestern spring-wheat belt are all increasing lamb production.

An actual surplus of yearling ewes is indicated this year by generous receipts at feeding stations near Chicago, where private trading has developed on an extensive scale. Some trade philosopher has asserted that whenever a western sheepman sends a yearling ewe into the Corn Belt he initiates competition for three years or more on his own lamb output. This may not be axiomatic, as such purchases are frequently liquidated early, but it must be evident that, if any considerable number of young western ewes make a pilgrimage to the Corn Belt or to territory east of Chicago, native-lamb production will increase. The present problem of the sheep industry is consumption rather than production. High cost of beef will undoubtedly exert a stimulating influence on consumption, a possibility existing that it could be increased to at least fifteen pounds per capita, which would absorb production expansion for several years to come. Wool is in a strong statistical position, and, if lamb consumption could be doubled—which means around eleven pounds per capita—the problem would be solved, at least for the next half-decade.

Last winter's low hog market will at least prevent further production expansion; that it will put a crimp in the industry is improbable. The fact must not be overlooked that the swine-production area is expanding, especially in the Northwest, although contracting in the increasing area devoted to dairying. The June rise in hog prices will have the logical effect of preventing liquidation of brood sows, especially as fattening them is costly under present feed conditions, and unless fat they have little value to killers. A high summer hog market will be effective in reassuring hog-growers, as human memory is short and optimism is easily generated. Hogs sold out of line with corn all last winter, but they furnished a cash outlet for an enormous quantity of inferior corn that would have been unmerchantable otherwise, and, in the aggregate, deposited a colossal sum of money in Corn Belt banks, where it was needed in the worst way.

PRESENT CATTLE SITUATION WITHOUT PRECEDENT

J. E. P.

A SEMI-PYROTECHNICAL DISPLAY in the fat-cattle market late in June cleared the previously turgid atmosphere. For weeks previously killers had resorted to every possible expedient to restrain the rising tendency of prices, incidentally concealing beef-supply conditions; but the effort was futile. A few days of short supply disclosed the actual situation. At Chicago the top had been kept below the \$15 line by adroit maneuvering, regardless of the fact that steers were being appraised with no consideration given to intrinsic value. In other words, condition was ignored. But finally

the dead-line was crossed at Kansas City, a drove of Sni-A-Bar steers jumping to \$15.50; whereupon the lid blew sky-high, and Chicago promptly sent a procession of \$15 to \$15.15 cattle over the scale; yearlings, medium weights, and big bullocks attaining that altitude. But this was not the real spectacular feature of the market at that period, as, in an effort to secure numbers and satisfy urgent beef requirements, killers put grassers up 75 cents to \$1 per cwt., while the better grades advanced but 25 to 50 cents. "Everything is selling higher but the tops," describes market conditions at that stage. As usual, those with long-fed bullocks dressing 62 per cent or better were penalized.

During the third week of June a belated drive was made on grassers, setting prices back 75 cents to \$1 per cwt.; but on the short run the following week all this was put back, the advance embracing everything but canning and cutting cows, and they were not involved in the previous decline. While choice heavy steers advanced from \$14.90 to \$15.10, \$12.50 to \$13 grassers on the bear drive went to \$13.25 to \$13.85. One week it was necessary to peddle plain heavy steers all day, frequently carrying them overnight on bids under \$14; at the middle of the next week they sold right off the reel at \$14.50 to \$14.75. Eventually, of course, quality and condition in combination will get their just dues, and that period is at hand.

By the end of June it was evident that Nebraska had "shot its wad," that gobs of big cattle were a thing of the past, and that weight was about to go to a premium. Iowa and South Dakota have some big cattle left, but they are in strong hands and will not figure in bargain sales. Early July prospects were that the bulk of the fed cattle to go to market the rest of the year will be yearlings and handy-weights. Few cattle went on feed during March and April, as corn was high and there was no incentive to initiate beef-making operations, especially as killers were successfully disputing possession of fleshy, or two-way, cattle with feeders. Iowa put a considerable number of light steers on feed during May and June, but there will undoubtedly be a shortage of what the trade terms "follow-up" cattle with a little weight—a crop that usually reaches the market in the wake of the winter-fed crop, now at the tail end of the selling season.

The late June rise was beneficial in several respects. It created a good prospect for the oncoming crop of grassers, and educated feeders to the new scale of replacement prices. Feeders have been hugging the illusion that stock-cattle prices were abnormally high and by some process of legerdemain would be scaled downward. The June rise convinced those able to see a hole through a ladder that this is impossible, and, with practical certainty of feed abundance, they are at the inception of a psychological condition where they will go to buying cattle. Already Nebraska feeders are contracting mature steers for fall delivery at \$11.50 to \$12.50 per cwt.—the highest basis since the war—and that many calves will be available below \$45 per head at weaning time is improbable. Down in Texas calves contracted early in the season at \$40 to \$45 per head resold in June at \$42.50 to \$47.50. At Canadian, Texas, one string of choice Hereford calves sold on June 23 at \$56.50 per head, the buyer to take them about November 15 with a 10 per cent cut. This sounds like a lot of money for a strictly 1928 calf, although they will weigh around 500 pounds, having been dropped from February to May. It shows what breeding and care can accomplish. The S M S calves have not yet been priced, but it is understood that the figure will be right around \$47.50.

Since May there has been an appreciation of about 5 per cent in both calf and yearling values in Texas. Yearlings,

sold early for fall delivery at 10½ cents, are now moving at 11 cents, several thousand having been taken to go to Colorado at that figure. Swift has contracted a string of several thousand calves at \$41 for fall delivery.

Grass has been washy in Texas, and, in fact, over much of the Southwest, which will delay marketing; but cattle will fatten quickly, although the movement will be thirty days late.

In Kansas and Osage pastures, grazing conditions are ideal—so good, in fact, that even yearlings, of which a large percentage had to be taken last spring, will probably make beef, and it is a foregone conclusion, if handwriting at present on the wall is credible, that killers will take every steer in decent beef condition to care for urgent beef demand. Beef production is lagging behind consumption to an extent that keeps the hang-rail bare and branch-house coolers constantly in need of replenishment.

In the Northwest, physical conditions were unsatisfactory early in June, creating apprehension of necessity for loading distressed cattle; but timely rain came, and owners in that quarter are again in easy circumstances. A few distressed cattle did come from the Dakotas and were greedily absorbed by feeders. With plenty of feed, Northwestern cattle-owners are indifferent as to market conditions. The man who needs cattle, also an army of traders, are constantly on the alert for opportunity to contract, without getting very far.

An \$11.50 to \$12.50 market for 900-pound southwestern grassers at the end of June should be encouraging to those who have pasture cattle carrying beef to gather this fall. Wider spreads between \$13 and \$15 steers may be expected, but the latter could advance \$2 to \$3 per cwt. and then fall short of the high altitude reached last fall. If, as the trade believes, heavy fed cattle have been closely marketed, mature grassers should do better, in a price sense, than last fall, as the product can be used for substitution, and the ill-concealed policy of killers is to hold top prices down, even if it is necessary to let less desirable cattle, from a beef standpoint, get out of line.

Feeders will buy cattle, despite emphatic and frequently profane assertion to the contrary. My prediction is that along in September replacement demand will reach a degree of mild furore. Outside a few cattle bought high at the Denver show, Nebraska feeders have not been badly hurt during the past season, and any such injury in a financial sense has been on extreme-weight cattle, all the light and medium weights having paid out. It is true that one drove of \$15.50 cattle acquired at Denver in January resold at \$14.80 in June after a five-month feed, but that was an exceptional transaction. If Nebraska is able to secure the cattle, the usual number will go in next fall, and weight will not be balked at.

It is time to realize that the present cattle situation and prospect are without precedent. The army of cycle theorists, grinding out opinion based on past performance, will do well to take this into their reckoning. In the operation of the cycle heretofore, high cattle prices have been due to short corn crops. Never since 1875, when the trans-Missouri region was populated in a bovine sense, has there been the least difficulty in replenishing Corn Belt feed-lots with cheap cattle, but during the past four years six crops of cattle have disappeared into the cavernous maw of the American consumer. This has all but eliminated aged steers and wiped out the surplus cattle supply of the trans-Missouri storehouse from the Rio Grande to the Saskatchewan. Replacement will be the keynote of the cattle problem from now on.

It looks like a good prospect for grass beef during the coming season.

July, 1928

THE PRODUCER

TRADING IN FEEDER LAMBS SUSPENDED

J. E. P.

FEEDER-LAMB PRICES on the present crop will hinge on Colorado feed conditions. Temporarily, at least, trading has been suspended. Feeders and breeders are expected to get together at the July 18 meeting of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association at Casper to consider the contract formulated by the recently organized feeders' association, the avowed purpose of which is to eliminate prenatal buying and rectify alleged abuses in present methods, which, it is contended, are disadvantageous to both elements in the industry. The theory of those responsible for the movement is that speculators' profits benefit neither breeder nor feeder.

Colorado will be short of hay and beet-tops, which is likely to curtail next winter's lamb-feeding. Another possible restrictive influence is an impression that prices realized by Colorado feeders on last winter's crop were abnormal, and that another winter output of similar volume may not get the same enthusiastic reception at killers' hands. There exists some difference of opinion as to available supply. Whatever it may be in a numerical sense, it will be absorbed. While Corn Belt feeders have taken somewhat severe financial punishment for three years past on their fall investment in western feeding lambs, many are ready to buy a new stack of chips of the same color, and there will be the usual grist of neophytes. Stock cattle will be high and feed abundant, insuring a demand for lambs, especially if the summer market for fat lambs holds up, which it is likely to do, regardless of a substantial increase in native-lamb production. Beef is high, and there is a limit to the American appetite for pork; consequently lamb-growers and feeders will benefit.

Present indications are that the cheap feeding lambs of the season will be represented by early purchases.

TEXAS CATTLE MOVING OUT

J. E. P.

CATTLE ARE MOVING FREELY in Texas. The prevailing price in the Canadian section for yearlings was \$67.50 to \$70 per head late in June, or about 11 cents per pound, with extra-choice, well-wintered bunches held at 12 cents. Calf quotations, for fall delivery, were 10 to 11 cents per pound, or \$42.50 to \$45 per head, for steers and heifers mixed. Eleven cents was bid for a drove of 2,000 yearlings, conditional on selling another bunch at 10½ cents; but the offer was refused.

The Pueblo Packing Company bought a bunch of dry cows, for fall delivery, at the option of the buyer, at 9 cents. These dry cows are four to eight years old, and will be fat. Dry cows are scarce, which accounts for current high prices.

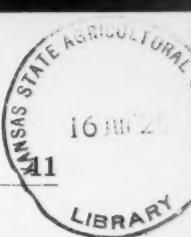
John Crane bought 5,000 head of yearlings to fill Corn Belt feeder orders. A few steer and heifer calves go with the purchase.

Conditions in the Panhandle section of Texas, writes C. A. Struder, of Canadian, were never better. Grass is ideal, and cattle should get fat. This also applies throughout the Southwest.

Canada Prohibits Meat Imports from South America

A decree has been issued by the Canadian Department of Agriculture prohibiting importation into the Dominion of meats, except cooked and canned, from Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay, owing to the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease in these countries.

THE NEBRASKA CONVENTION



MORE THAN FOUR HUNDRED STOCKMEN were in attendance at the thirty-eighth annual convention of the Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, held in Ogallala on June 1 and 2, making this the largest meeting in the history of the organization. Following the annual address by the president, Robert Graham, there were reports by Secretary F. M. Broome and C. L. Talbot, chief brand inspector. Harry R. Park, of Chicago, read a paper on the various phases of the live-stock industry, and Dr. A. H. Francis, director of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry at Lincoln, discussed the work of the government in connection with animal diseases. Results of calf-wintering tests were told by E. M. Brouse, superintendent of the Experiment Station at Valentine.

In the afternoon, Dr. C. H. Hays, chief of the Nebraska Bureau of Animal Industry, gave an address along the same lines as Dr. Francis, confining himself to state activities. Professor H. J. Gramlich, chairman of the Department of Animal Husbandry at the Nebraska State University, drew an optimistic picture of the live-stock outlook for the immediate future. James Christensen, of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration, reviewed the work of that branch of the federal government. The last speaker of the day was Edward N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago, who predicted an increase in the consumption of beef and the continuation of present market values. In the evening a well-attended banquet was held, where many informal talks were given.

Opening the program on the second day, A. E. de Ricles, of Denver, addressed the convention. He was followed by W. B. Tagg, president of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange; O. J. Gibbs, representing the Sioux City commission men; and Charles O. Robinson, of the Chicago Live Stock Exchange, who all spoke on the general subject of live-stock marketing. The matter of transportation was dealt with by several representatives of the railroads. The meeting thereupon resolved itself into a general conference on brands and inspection.

The committee on resolutions reported the following, which were all adopted:

Advocating increase of revenues of National Live Stock and Meat Board to twice present amount;

Indorsing THE PRODUCER;

Requesting agencies instrumental in establishing system of grading and marking beef to continue their activities;

Asking that contracts for meats furnished army and navy be confined to establishments using home-produced meats;

Urging continued support of Boys' and Girls' Club work;

Suggesting further study by Valentine Experiment Station along lines of promoting orderly marketing by spreading shipments throughout the year;

Commending Secretary Jardine and Dr. Mohler, chief of Bureau of Animal Industry, for their efforts in behalf of stockmen, but requesting that more stringent rules be promulgated for making brand inspection effective;

Favoring improvement of deep waterways;

Appreciating service rendered to shippers by railroads and Central Regional Advisory Board;

Pledging co-operation with Ak-Sar-Ben in inaugurating live-stock show at Omaha;

Acknowledging efforts of Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, and Representative Simmons, of Nebraska, in behalf of legislation for benefit of stockmen;

Demanding ample tariff protection for meat, meat products, and hides;

Urging that bars be kept up against importation of meat products from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists;

Requesting central markets to provide auction rings and auction sale facilities;

Expressing regret at passing of F. M. Currie, A. F. Stryker, and F. M. Stewart.

Another resolution, presented by an individual member, was passed unanimously. It read:

"WHEREAS, The members of the live-stock fraternity of western Nebraska are satisfied with the financial position of their business, do not believe in untried theories of government, and are not in sympathy with the increase of any paternalistic features of their government; be it

"Resolved, That they heartily commend their President, Calvin Coolidge, for his veto of the McNary-Haugen bill."

All the officers were re-elected, as follows: Robert Graham, Alliance, president; A. R. Modisett, Rushville, vice-president; F. M. Broome, Alliance, secretary-treasurer.

MEETING OF WYOMING ASSOCIATION

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, held in Thermopolis on June 5 and 6, was exceptionally well attended and was characterized by a feeling of optimism throughout. President John L. Jordan, in his review of the past activities of the association and his outline of new work to be undertaken, pronounced the general outlook for the cattle business to be bright, with satisfactory prices likely to be maintained for the next two or three years, but counseled conservatism and warned against overproduction. Advantage should be taken of present favorable conditions, he thought, to prepare for the future.

Other addresses were delivered by E. N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago; Professor A. F. Vass, of the University of Wyoming; T. W. Tomlinson, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association; John T. Caine, III, formerly chief of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration and now connected with the International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago; J. M. Macfarlane, president of the Utah Cattle and Horse Growers' Association; James Christensen, western representative of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration; James K. Wallace, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics; N. A. Williams, general superintendent of the Union Pacific Railroad at Cheyenne; John Clay, commission man and banker, Chicago; William Wood, commission man, Omaha; State Senator Perry Jenkins; J. H. Montgomery, of Basin; and ex-Governor B. B. Brooks, of Casper.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Indorsing action of American National Live Stock Association in demanding tariff on hides and increased duties on beef products;

Asking State Board of Land Commissioners to reduce rentals on state and school lands;

Favoring close co-operation between association and Wyoming Farm Bureau;

Requesting re-enactment of statute requiring anyone killing cattle for beef to produce on demand either hide or certificate of inspection of hide;

Urging enactment of law for protection of natural storage of water by preventing burning of timber and sagebrush of watersheds;

Advocating creation of a Wyoming State Railroad Commission to look after freight-rate adjustments, and thanking Wyoming Public Service Commission for excellent work done in protecting live-stock interests of state in hearings under Hoch-Smith Resolution;

Empowering president of association to appoint committee of members of association who are also members of State Legislature to urge enactment of laws recommended at meeting;

Expressing continued confidence in Senator Kendrick and thanking him for his untiring labor in behalf of stockmen.

All the old officers were re-elected: John L. Jordan, Cheyenne, president; Robert M. Faddis, Sheridan, vice-president; George Mitchell, Uva, treasurer; Minnie Haas, Cheyenne, secretary.

Sheridan was chosen as the meeting-place for 1929.

SOUTH DAKOTA STOCKMEN MEET

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION of the Western South Dakota Stock Growers' Association assembled in Rapid City on June 8 and 9, with President James T. Craig in the chair. In the absence of Frank M. Stewart, whose death had removed the guiding spirit of the association ever since its inception, his daughter, Queena Stewart, appointed to succeed him, submitted the secretary's annual report, reviewing the outstanding facts in the year's history and appealing for an increased measure of moral and financial support. James K. Wallace, of the Marketing Division of the Department of Agriculture, urged the stockmen to produce quality rather than quantity beef; and C. L. Talbot, supervisor of inspectors at Omaha, reported on the inspection work at that point.

Resolutions were passed paying a tribute to the memory of Secretary Stewart; pledging the membership not to ship any live stock to a commission firm that disregards the inspector's tally; favoring an increase of the revenues of the National Live Stock and Meat Board to twenty cents a car of live stock shipped to market; expressing appreciation of the labors of Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, and the senators and representatives from South Dakota, in behalf of the live-stock industry; and advocating a law compelling shippers of cattle with other than their recorded brand to furnish the railroad agent at the shipping point with an affidavit of the brands on all cattle shipped.

James T. Craig, of Bellefourche, was re-elected president; Tom Jones, of Midland, vice-president; and Queena Stewart, of Buffalo Gap, secretary-treasurer.

MEAT BOARD MEETS AT OMAHA

ON JUNE 21 AND 22 the National Live Stock and Meat Board met in its fifth annual session at Omaha, with the various groups composing the body fully represented. For the American National Live Stock Association appeared Charles D. Carey, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and O. M. Plummer, of Portland, Oregon. Others present were: J. H. Mercer, Topeka, Kansas, chairman of the board, representing the Kansas Live Stock Association; F. R. Marshall, Salt Lake City, for the National Wool Growers' Association; R. M. Gunn, Buckingham, Iowa, for the Corn Belt Meat Producers' Association; F. H. Moore, Rochester, Indiana, for the National Swine Growers' Association; W. H. Tomhave, Chicago, for the National Society of Record Associations; Everett C. Brown, Chicago, and W. B. Tagg, Omaha, for the live-stock exchanges; F. Edson White and Thomas E. Wilson, representing the packers; John T. Russell, Chicago, representing the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers; and C. H. Janssen, of St. Paul, representing the National Association of Retail Grocers.

A comprehensive report of the activities of the board during the past twelve months was submitted by R. C. Pollock, secretary and general manager. THE PRODUCER in previous issues has reviewed at length this intensive and many-sided work for the co-operation of all branches of the meat industry in advancing the common cause and educating the public concerning the value of meat in the diet. Among the noteworthy achievements of the year has been the development of the government service in the grading and stamping of beef, undertaken at the request of the Department of Agriculture, the Better Beef Association, and the meat-packers. We learn that, besides the 49,000 carcasses labeled by government inspectors, the packers during the year put their private brand on over 45,000 carcasses.

The committee of ten having charge of the investigation into the factors influencing the quality and palatability of meat reported progress. Scientific research into the properties of meat is being continued at the University of Rochester and the Pennsylvania State College. One result of this study has been the placing of meat at the head of the list of iron-containing foods on a chart published by the American Medical Association, and the discovery of liver as one of the most potent agents in the prevention and cure of pernicious anemia.

In the election of officers for the ensuing fiscal year, J. H. Mercer, secretary of the Kansas Live Stock Association, was again chosen chairman. Thomas E. Wilson, head of the packing firm that bears his name, was re-elected vice-chairman; Everett C. Brown, president of the Chicago Live Stock Exchange, treasurer; and R. C. Pollock, general manager.

COLORADO CATTLEMEN RESENT SHEEP INVASION

MEETING AT ASPEN, Colorado, on June 9, the Western Slope Cattle Growers' Association in a strong resolution protested against the "habitual violation and disregard" of the grazing regulations of the Forest Service by forestry officials in permitting the incursion of sheep bands owned by outside interests upon the ranges adjoining the improved homes of local people, destroying the natural forage resources of the region. Another resolution recommended a policy in sales of cattle by which all proceeds should be cleared through the Denver Clearing House.

RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF LIVE STOCK

"**T**HUS CIVILIZED MAN always thinks of the animal, and cannot help but elevate him to his own level. It is in this that he resembles the primitive man. Humanity has not changed. In its infancy as well as in its mature age, animals form the base of many religions, and of their myths and legends." With these words Dr. Rudolf A. Clemen, of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago, concludes his article, "Live Stock in Mythology and Religion," which forms the contents of a recent issue of the *Monthly Letter to Animal Husbandmen*.

The colorful part played by domestic animals in the economic, artistic, and religious life of the peoples of antiquity is difficult to realize today. To the ancients these animals were gods, heroes, or beings into whom men and women would be transformed after death, and thus became objects of veneration. The worship of the bull in the Nile valley is an example of how the dependence of the people upon their cattle naturally evolved into an animal cult. The plow bull became sacred, and to kill him was considered a mortal sin.

From the earliest times the bull Apis was regarded by the Egyptians as the most perfect expression of the divinity in the form of an animal. This sacred bull was the calf of a cow incapable of conceiving another offspring. According to one version, lightning descended on the cow from heaven; according to another, the god let himself down on her by moonlight. The bull lived in a palace of his own, with parks surrounding it. His food consisted of cakes of flour and honey, and he had a harem of considerable proportions. If he did not die a natural death before he was twenty-five years old, he was drowned by priests in a fountain consecrated to the sun, and his mummy was buried with elaborate ceremonies. On the upper Nile there is today a tribe which venerates the bull in a somewhat similar manner.

In ancient Hindu civilization, some of the goddesses were represented in the shape of cows, and certain gods were called "children of the spotted cow." Today, in India, as a means of annulling an unlucky horoscope, rebirth from a cow is simulated. The pious Hindu touches the tail of the cow at the moment of death, and believes that it will carry him across the river of death. In the last reincarnation before the assumption of human form, the cow receives the spirit and brings it back across the river which bounds the lower world.

In Iranian mythology the moon is regarded as containing the seed of the primeval bull, and in Zoroastrianism the urine of the bull provides one of the chief modes of religious purification. Primitive tribes of Madagascar keep a bull in a sacred inclosure, guarded by 200 priests. When it dies, another takes its place.

Cattle were widely sacrificed to gods in all countries of antiquity. In Rome, white steers were offered to Jupiter. Goddesses, as a rule, had cows sacrificed to them, and maiden goddesses were honored with heifers.

The place of the hog in animal cults was not so universal as that of cattle. Swine were not considered as gods, but rather as sacrificial animals. The eating of pork was forbidden to most oriental peoples, and an Egyptian or Jewish priest, according to Herodotus, would rather die than partake of swine flesh. This repulsion was undoubtedly called forth by the fact that the eating of fat meat had been found to cause illness in the hot South. The contempt extended to the swineherd. Among the Greeks and Romans, however, the hog held first place.

In ancient mythology and religion, sheep played a role similar to that of hogs, being rarely regarded as gods. However, Amon, the primitive Egyptian god of life and reproduction, was represented as a ram-headed deity. The more esthetic Greeks, in accepting the Libyan god of nature, modified this demi-animal into a human form with only two rams' horns on the head. Mercury (the Greek Hermes) was the protecting god of the sheep-herder.

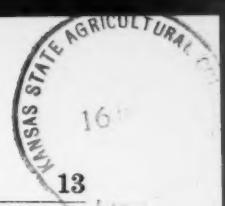
"In the early America of the Indians, animals played a significant role. The Indian was, of course, a great hunter; but it is of interest to note that he inflicted death upon animals only because he needed the meat for sustenance. It has been stated that no savage tribe ever exterminated any animal species. The Indian had domesticated only two animals—the dog, which he used as a beast of burden, and the turkey.

"Men of our early civilization considered themselves as possessing a degree of kinship with animals. They regarded them as mysterious ancestors, who, after having contributed their strength to the creation of the world, helped out in the formation of the human race. In some manner, these animals became confused with gods, while certain gods were confused with animals."

"In the course of centuries," comments Dr. Clemen, "the distinction between god, man, and animal became complete. Yet sometimes the new gods of civilized peoples did not replace absolutely the animal gods of a more primitive epoch. The two kinds of religion became mingled and blended, and the earlier one is often visible under the forms of the later."

COST OF GROWING ARGENTINE CORN

ACTING UNDER the "flexible" provision of the Tariff Act, the Tariff Commission has conducted an investigation into the relative cost of producing corn in Argentina and the United States. It found that, while cost in this country is slightly lower, water transportation rates from Buenos Aires to both the Atlantic and the Pacific seaboards are so much less than the rail haul from the Middle West in either direction as to overcome, not only this difference, but a large part or all of the import duty of 15 cents a bushel. As a



consequence, Argentine corn, in times of a shortage in the United States, is enabled to compete in our markets, and has in the past competed, with home-grown corn.

Investigators appointed by the commission report that the average cost of raising a bushel of corn in the United States during the years 1926 and 1927 was 76.6 cents if interest charges on farm property were calculated "on stated values," and 67.7 cents if the farmer rented his land on a cash basis. In Argentina during the same two years cost of producing one bushel of corn was 79 cents. The freight rate from the Middle West to San Francisco is 38 cents a bushel, while the water rate from Buenos Aires is only about 16 cents. From the Corn Belt to the Atlantic coast, rail transportation is 22 cents a bushel, and the water rate from Argentina 12 cents.

This makes the cost of laying down a bushel of Argentine corn on the Pacific coast fall midway between the two costs of the American product, according to how the interest is figured. On the Atlantic coast there normally is a difference of 7 to 16 cents, respectively, in favor of the United States.

HARVEST BEGINS

CROPS MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS during the past month, but there was so much cool weather and rain that they appear to be still short of normal growth, according to the Department of Agriculture. Violent storms in the South caused no little damage to cotton and to ripe grain in certain sections. Cotton still presents a backward and spotted aspect, with widespread reports of irregular stands, grassy fields, and damage from bad weather. Corn made good growth, on the whole, and is so far a promising crop, although rains hindered cultivation and many fields are full of weeds. Wheat has been injured by storms in the Southwest and bad weather elsewhere. New wheat is moving to market from Oklahoma and Texas. The grain is reported as well headed and filled throughout most of the winter-wheat territory, but there are many fields where the stand is exceedingly thin, especially in the central and eastern states.

The movement to market of wheat and of other new crops—such as early fruits, vegetables, and potatoes—has been accompanied by some decline in prices. In the case of potatoes, prices have fallen to levels very disturbing to growers.

WHEAT AND RYE PREDICTIONS

GOVERNMENT FORECASTS as of June 1 for winter wheat and rye in the United States during the current harvest season indicate a yield of 512,252,000 bushels of wheat, compared with 552,384,000 bushels in 1927, and 36,676,000 bushels of rye, as against 58,572,000 bushels last year.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH-DISEASE COMMISSION REPORTS

ACTING UNDER AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS, a commission was sent to Europe in May, 1925, to make observations for the purpose of determining the best methods of suppressing outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease. Its members were Peter K. Olitsky, of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research; Jacob Traum, of the University of California; and Harry W. Schoening, of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Returning after approximately a year's research in consultation with leading European scientists and veterinary

officials, the commission prepared its report, which consists of 172 printed pages (Technical Bulletin 76-T of the Department of Agriculture). It makes available to American scientists, live-stock officials, and the public a comprehensive treatise on this dangerous malady in all its phases.

The report includes an introduction by Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, a summary of control methods used in the principal European countries, detailed results of experimental studies, discussions of the survival of virus apart from infected animals, methods by which the disease is carried, studies on the disease, vesicular stomatitis, which closely resembles foot-and-mouth disease, and conclusions.

From the commission's studies it appears that animals are most likely to spread the contagion in the early stage of the disease; that practically all cloven-footed animals are susceptible; that the greatest source of danger is removed by slaughter and proper disposal of the involved animals; that the virus may remain alive for one or two months, and perhaps longer; and that the disinfection of premises and restocking of previously infected farms should be conducted under official veterinary supervision.

The commission indorses the slaughter and quarantine method, with supplementary safeguards. The main reason for prompt slaughter, the report states, is to remove as soon as possible the greatest source of active virus. Even though the disease spreads rapidly, it frequently takes from one to several weeks before all susceptible animals in a herd have contracted it, and in turn have passed through the highly infectious stage. During this period each animal or group of animals becomes a source of danger, in many instances even before any evidence of the disease is seen. The slaughter method removes these potential reservoirs of virus.

THE CALENDAR

- July 13-14, 1928—Annual Midsummer Conference of Colorado Stock Growers' Association, Steamboat Springs, Colo.
- July 18-20, 1928—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Casper, Wyo.
- July 24-26, 1928—Annual Convention of Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association of Texas, San Angelo, Tex.
- August 8, 1928—Annual Ram Sale and Mid-Year Advisory Board Meeting of Idaho Wool Growers' Association, Filer, Idaho.
- August 14-15, 1928—Annual Ranchmen's Round-Up Meeting, Ranch Experiment Station, A. and M. College, Sonora, Tex.
- August 27-30, 1928—National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City Utah.
- October 1-7, 1928—Annual Dairy Cattle Congress, Waterloo, Iowa.
- November 3-9, 1928—Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.
- November 3-10, 1928—Pacific International Live Stock Show, Portland, Ore.
- November 12-15, 1928—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.
- November 13-15, 1928—Live Stock Show, San Francisco, Cal.
- November 16-17, 1928—Annual Convention of California Wool Growers' Association, San Francisco, Cal.
- November 17-24, 1928—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.
- December 1-8, 1928—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
- December 5-10, 1928—Ogden Live Stock Show, Ogden, Utah.
- December 7-8, 1928—Annual Convention of California Cattlemen's Association and Annual Meeting of Western Cattle Marketing Association, San Francisco, Cal.
- March 9-16, 1929—Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.
- March 19-21, 1929—Annual Convention of Texas and Southwestern Cattlemen's Association, Houston, Tex.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF THE

LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

Officers and Directors

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Volume X

JULY, 1928

Number 2

REDUCING THE FREIGHT BILL

PRESIDENT BRITE'S ADVICE TO STOCKMEN, in the June PRODUCER, to reduce expenses by cutting down their shipping bill, and showing them how it can be done, is eminently sound. Relief for agriculture through the avenue of special legislation has proved too slow a procedure for times of crisis. During six years now the farmer has been knocking at the doors of Congress—and what has he got? Nor does the administrative machinery seem to move appreciably faster. For over three years the Interstate Commerce Commission has been considering what could be done to help the industry over the present period of depression through a revision of freight rates—and it is still deliberating! As for those who place reliance in political platforms and hope to see something tangible come of the more or less vague but attractively tinted promises made at Kansas City and Houston last month, experience has taught us that they are leaning on a fragile reed. All too often, after such pledges have served their purpose they are forgotten.

Disheartening as is this situation, it naturally turns the thoughts of producers to means for self-help. Left in the lurch by a government that distributes its largesses to other industries with a liberal hand, agriculture is thrown back upon its own resources. What the live-stock man can do to pull himself out of a hole may not be so very much, but it at least is a known quantity and within his own determination. Through the cumulative effect of a score of little economies he can contribute to keeping the balance on the right side of the ledger.

Mr. Brite points the way to one such economy—

an economy, moreover, which shippers might do well to incorporate permanently in their plan of management. If it is sound policy for an emergency, it is sound policy for normal conditions.

THE MEAT BOARD

AMISSIONARY WORK of outstanding merit in spreading the meat gospel is being performed by the National Live Stock and Meat Board. In the six years that have elapsed since the organization of that multilateral body of producers, processors, and dealers, it has fully justified the expectations of those who planned it. It has, indeed, become what its parents meant it to be—a clearing-house for the best ideas in the meat trade, where representatives of the various branches of the industry meet in friendly counsel and map out a line of action for the advancement of their mutual interests.

One need only read the report submitted at the annual meeting last month by R. C. Pollock, general manager of the board, to be impressed with the energy with which its activities are being carried out. Such an undertaking as government beef-grading alone, which has been under the direction of the board, has been an enterprise of vast proportions, involving a lot of detail work. The determination of the factors which influence the quality and palatability of meat—another of the problems with which the board is wrestling—has involved investigations extending over years, in which no less than twenty-four state experiment stations are engaged. Scientific research into the chemical properties of meat is being pursued at two great institutions of learning, and has already yielded results of far-reaching importance. In connection with the attempted boycott of beef by eastern hotel men last winter, the board rendered distinct service by promptly pointing out the flimsy basis on which the agitation was founded, and helped materially in checking it before it had spread to wider circles. The value of a close-knit organization in an emergency of this kind was thus abundantly demonstrated.

But it is perhaps as an educational agency that the work of the board has been most typical as well as most significant. The housewives, present and prospective, reached by its home-demonstration courses, its radio talks, its cook-books, its lectures, its exhibits, its articles in the daily and periodical press, its meat-story contests for high-school girls, and similar activities, reach into the hundreds of thousands. Its service in building up a body of scientifically sound meat facts for the guidance of this and future generations in arranging a wholesome dietary scheme, in which meat is given its proper place, has been of high value.

Still more, however, could be accomplished if its funds were not so limited. As will be remembered, the income of the board is derived from a levy of ten cents a car on live stock shipped to market, half of which is contributed by the seller and half by the buyer—and this is available only where the commission men agree to collect it. So far this levy has yielded an amount insufficient to cover the whole field in as thorough a manner as could be desired, and should be increased. At the convention of the American National Live Stock Association in El Paso last January a resolution was passed in favor of doubling the assessment. Similar action has been taken by other stockmen's organizations. It requires the consent of all the groups represented on the board to effect the change. This authorization should be given.

BEEF-GRADING

SUPPLEMENTING OUR EDITORIAL on "Government Beef-Grading" in the June issue of THE PRODUCER from information sent out from Washington since we went to press, we wish to call particular attention to one important change: Beginning July 1, the grading service will be extended to include *all* classes and grades of beef.

Furthermore, we learn that the service will be available to "slaughterers, packers, wholesalers, jobbers, hotels, restaurants, and retailers" in the *seven* cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., Chicago, Kansas City, and Omaha, where official graders will be stationed, and will be charged for, as stated, at the rate of \$2 an hour—equivalent to less than 5 cents per carcass.

At the close of June, when free stamping came to an end, owing to the failure of Congress to provide the necessary funds, approximately 66,210 carcasses, or 36,417,000 pounds of beef, had been graded and labeled by government inspectors. In these figures the Secretary of Agriculture sees sufficient proof of the popularity of what was begun, a little more than a year ago, as an experiment, to warrant him in continuing the work on a fee basis.

MAINTAIN THE MEAT-EXCLUSION ORDER

BY JAMES E. POOLE

WE ARE "IN BAD" with Argentina, and all because we have refused to permit the United States to become a dumping-ground for fresh meats that, in the opinion of competent authorities, carry foot-and-mouth disease infection. Propaganda, through newspaper and other publicity channels, has already been profusely distributed. It is ingeniously

constructed, with the intention of creating an impression that necessity for fostering cordial relations between the United States and South American countries exists. That is the text of every screed appearing in the eastern press, which is being circulated as far west as Chicago, and is finding a prominent place in many influential journals.

The latest argument is that the State Department should have full control of the matter, in order to take it out of the hands of the Department of Agriculture. Contention is made that the exclusion order has had an injurious effect on Argentina's British market—which is somewhat far-fetched. Current propaganda carries such statements as the following:

The understanding, good-will, and friendly relations, so important to cordiality between nations, have been jeopardized by the beef-exclusion order.

American capital is flowing into South America for permanent investment in such large volume as to necessitate a change of policy by the United States government.

The beef-exclusion order has created a false issue, engendering bitterness in South America against the United States, which could have been avoided if control of foreign relations had been centered in one head at Washington.

Ambassador Pueyrredon intimates bad faith, alleging that, while he was negotiating with the Department of State, the exclusion order was issued by the Department of Agriculture.

All this is merely a smoke-screen, designed to conceal the effort to "get by" with an order admitting Argentine beef. In fact, no other motive is assignable. It is contended that the Bureau of Animal Industry order of September 26, 1926, was unnecessary, as Argentina was not shipping meat to the United States at that time, and that American regulations were such that Argentine meat could have been excluded as in the past.

"Argentina could not allow the United States order to stand, because of the effect it would have on the British market," the latest grist of literature on the subject asserts, continuing: "Eventually the United States government had to back down as gracefully as it could, and agree to allow the importation of Argentine meat accompanied by certificates from the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture showing that the product comes from districts where foot-and-mouth disease does not exist."

All of which is "the bunk." Argentina asserts that it has inaugurated a strict inspection service, and will soon be in a position to issue such certificates.

"Then," the latest missive says, "it will be able to land beef in New York cheaper than it can be delivered from Chicago, even after paying the American import duty. When that day arrives, the American government will be faced with the alternative of permitting importation of Argentine beef, and the consequent establishment of serious competition with American cattle-growers, or of raising the customs duties high enough to keep it out. If it does the latter, Argentina will have good grounds for charging that the Americans have been acting in bad faith all along, because they never intended that Argentine meat should enter the American market."

And that's that.

It is highly improbable that the Department of Agriculture will recognize inspection certificates issued by Argentina, after recent disclosures concerning foot-and-mouth disease in that country—at least on the mere assertion of Buenos Aires bureaucrats. Argentina comes into court with unclean hands, as it has adopted somewhat coarse methods in protecting its own agrarian element from competition with neighboring South American countries. The issue is not the tariff, and it is not economic, but sanitary. If Washington desires avoidance of responsibility for admission of foot-and-mouth disease into the United States, the exclusion order must be maintained. An attempt to throw a smoke-screen to hide this, the real issue, will fail. It may be that "the interests of the United States in South America are overwhelmingly economic," as recent propaganda asserts, but its domestic welfare rests on something far more important.

Foot-and-mouth disease exists in Argentina in benign form. Transferred by the agency of fresh meats to clean countries, it has assumed a virulent form, which British scientists have abundantly and convincingly demonstrated. Competition by Argentine beef would be serious to the domestic cattle industry; an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease would be ruinous to the whole agrarian interest. England must have South American beef; the United States does not need it.

Frank J. Gooding

After several months' illness, Idaho's junior senator, Frank J. Gooding, died at the home of his daughter, in the town named after him, on June 24. Senator Gooding, who was born in England, emigrated to this country at an early age, and in time became one of the leading sheep-growers of the West. His political prominence dates from 1905, when he was chosen governor of his state, serving during the most turbulent period in Idaho's history, when "Big Bill" Haywood, who recently passed away as an exile in Russia, was on trial for complicity in the murder of Governor Steunenberg. In 1920 Mr. Gooding was sent to the United States Senate, and was re-elected in 1926. In the Senate he was known as an authority on freight rates, being especially active in trying to secure fair treatment for the West in matters of transportation through the so-called "long-and-short-haul bill," of which he was the author. Last winter he acted as chairman of the Senate committee investigating conditions in the eastern coal-fields.

Senator Gooding for several years represented his state on the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association.

Edwin T. Meredith

At the age of only fifty-one, Edwin T. Meredith, President Wilson's second Secretary of Agriculture, passed away at his home in Des Moines, Iowa, on June 17. A prominent publisher of agricultural journals, of which *Successful Farming* is the best-known, and an eloquent public speaker, Mr. Meredith's influence in making farm conditions known and understood was far-reaching. In Washington, as a member of the cabinet, he rendered distinguished service. His business, social, and political activities were many and varied. Lately he had been mentioned as Iowa's candidate for the presidential nomination on the Democratic ticket—an honor which the state of his health compelled him to forego. According to his friends, he wore himself out working in the cause that was closest to his heart.

FARM PRICE INDEX HIGHEST IN THREE YEARS

THE HIGHEST FARM PRICE INDEX in three years is reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. On May 15, 1928, this index was 148 per cent of the pre-war level—an advance of 8 points since April 15, 22 points above May a year ago, and the highest reached since August, 1925.

Between April 15 and May 15 all groups increased, except dairy products, which showed a seasonal decline of 3 points. Grains advanced 16 points, fruits and vegetables 2 points, meat animals 9 points, poultry products 7 points, and cotton and cottonseed 12 points. The farm price of corn advanced 13 per cent during the period under review, and wheat was 11 per cent higher on May 15 than on April 15.

TUBERCULOSIS-FREE HOGS TO BE TATTOOED

AFTER JULY 1, 1928, the premium of 10 cents per cwt. paid by packers on hogs from counties accredited as free from tuberculosis will be paid only if the hogs are properly tattooed and certified as such. Under this system, the purpose of which is to aid in a more complete eradication of tuberculosis, it will be possible to inform the producer as to the killing test, so that he may take steps to eliminate the disease if it is present in his herds.

The tattooing is a simple process which produces a harmless mark on the skin, observable after the hogs have gone through the scraping machine, but not before.

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATIONS

THE AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL, providing funds for carrying on the work of the Department of Agriculture during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1929, has been approved by the President. It carries a total of \$139,138,794, but, adding unexpended balances from previous years and certain special appropriations, the grand total available will be \$150,462,533. This compares with \$143,565,549 provided for the fiscal year 1928.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

LESS LIVE STOCK WILL BE SHIPPED AS RATES INCREASE

LOS ANGELES, CAL., June 26, 1928.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have read President Brite's letter, "How to Reduce Freight Bill," in the June issue of THE PRODUCER, and I am impressed with statements of facts as well as with his suggestions. Mr. Brite is correct when he says that there is no certainty or indirect guarantee that the cattle industry of our country will pay any specific net rate of interest on the investment, and, further, that the ranch owner's or manager's salary is usually set after all other expenses, such as interest, taxes, ranch expenses, and freights, have been paid.

It no doubt is true that the railroads have great labor and cost problems to contend with, which enter into all freight rates assessed; yet I believe that the managers of railroad systems today should be interested in Mr. Brite's statements, in that shippers are certain to ship less and less as rates advance.

Furthermore, railroad managers will concede that today the motor truck is handling a great deal of "short-haul" freight, including live stock, which mode of transportation is increasing under present freight rates; to say nothing of what will be the increase with the coming of many more miles of concrete roads, better motors, and especially increased railroad rates.

Buying "round-trip tickets" for live stock is usually impractical, and no doubt would greatly decrease if cattlemen understock to hold reserve feed, as Mr. Brite suggests.

HUBBARD RUSSELL.

O'DONEL REPLIES TO BORDERS

MR. M. W. BORDERS, of Kansas City, commander-in-chief of the shock troops conducting the campaign for the Capper-Hope bill in the territory tributary to the Mistletoe Yards at that point, is at last succeeding in drawing some stray shots from the enemy. Last month THE PRODUCER printed a reply from Fred H. Bixby to a letter addressed to him by Mr. Borders and later issued in pamphlet form. Below we publish a communication from another ex-president of the American National Live Stock Association, C. M. O'Donel, who answers a few of Mr. Borders' inferences from a comparison of the Capper-Hope measure with what he calls "the Kendrick bill"—a comparison which has supplied him with much argumentative ammunition:

"BELL RANCH, N. M., June 10, 1928.

"Mr. M. W. Borders, Jr.,
"Kansas City, Mo.

"MY DEAR SIR:

"I have received a pamphlet containing printed copies of some correspondence between you and Mr. F. H. Bixby and of

a letter from you to Senator John B. Kendrick. I think I may assume that this came to me from your office, and since you say in your preliminary statement that the subject is one of the greatest interest to live-stock producers, I feel sure that you will not think me intrusive if I make some comments on the contents of the pamphlet. I even hope that you will welcome the views of another practical stockman. I shall try to give these views with all the courtesy that is becoming between men of open minds who honestly hold different opinions.

"A large part of your first letter to Mr. Bixby is devoted to what you call 'the Kendrick bill, introduced in the Senate about eight years ago,' and which I assume to be an early draft of the bill that developed into the Packers and Stock-Yards Act of 1921. I have not a copy of that bill here, but, of course, I accept your quotations from it as correct. In regard to your comparison of that bill with others, I am moved to make a few observations.

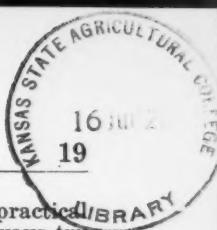
"First—It seems to me that criticism, eight years after date, of a bill which never became law, but was discarded at least in part, is no more than a beating of the empty air. You revive the ghost of a still-born measure, and then attempt to destroy it. It cannot be supposed that Senator Kendrick believed his first draft to be perfect, or that it would run the gauntlet of two committees of Congress without modification. He probably thought it a good enough bill to serve as a basis of discussion. It is not unusual, as you know, for bills to be amended in committee, and even your Capper-Hope bill has undergone that process. It has already been so transformed that its putative father would have difficulty in recognizing his offspring in its latest incarnation. Its number has even been altered, and what went into committee as S. 2506 is now known as S. 4264, and is not out of committee yet. Presumably the provisions which have been eliminated (such as the 'certificate of convenience and necessity') were found to be objectionable features, and presumably the additions which have been made (such as the clauses exempting co-operatives from the effect of the bill) would have been included in the first draft if its authors had had more foresight. Yet the proponents of the measure—including, I think, yourself—were as eloquent and as vigorous in behalf of 2506, with all its imperfections, as they are today in behalf of 4264. You were ready to swallow 2506, hook, line, and sinker.

"Second—at the time when the 'Kendrick bill' was first presented the question of private stock-yards was not an issue. That question has arisen since, and largely as an indirect product of the act of 1921. When that act was under consideration, the problem which now disturbs some people so deeply was not even discussed. Private stock-yards were not thought of as a subject for legislation. For that matter, some of us still think that they are not a proper subject for legislation.

"Third—You state that the definition of the word 'stock-yard' in the 'Kendrick bill' is more far-reaching—"more inclusive"—than that in the Capper-Hope bill; and you claim to find an essential difference between that definition in the Kendrick bill and the definition in the Packers and Stock-Yards Act. The facts are quite otherwise. The actual difference between the Kendrick bill definition and the Packers and Stock-Yards definition is that the latter contains the words 'as a public market' and the former does not. But the Kendrick bill, as well as the Packers and Stock-Yards Act, contains the words: 'commonly known as stock-yards, conducted or operated for compensation or profit.' Now, the compensation or profit derived from the operation of a stock-yard means that derived from its operation as a stock-yard, and nothing else. That compensation is collected in the form of charges for feed, bedding, yardage, etc. The profit made by the buyer, seller,

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or slaughterer of live stock has nothing to do with it. A public stock-yard, operated as such, is meant, and nothing else could be meant. The words 'as a public market' were added in the interest of a fuller definition, but they did not change the intent of the bill. I do not understand how you can have read any other meaning into the language used. I am forced to conclude that Mistletophobia is a disease complicated by ophthalmic symptoms.

"The weakness of the Capper-Hope bill lies in its looseness of definition. The key section of the bill is that defining a stock-yard—section 302. Subdivision (a) merely repeats the definition of public stock-yards of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act. Subdivision (b) seeks to define the non-public stock-yards which come under the bill. This is the definition in part: 'any place, establishment, or facility . . . in which [live stock] are received, held, or kept for sale, slaughter, or shipment in commerce in sufficient volume . . . to establish or affect substantially the market value of live stock at [public stock-yards].' Subdivision (d) provides that the Secretary of Agriculture (in practice, of course, some subordinate official) shall determine what stock-yards come under the above description. This calls for a finding of fact, and not of a tangible, concrete fact, but rather of the indefinite and elusive fact of the degree of influence that certain transactions at one place may have on the economic situation at another place—a situation that is necessarily affected by extraneous factors also. All sales affect markets in some degree; that is how quotations are obtained and how markets are made. The determination as to whether certain sales (or receipts) have a 'substantial' effect on markets, local or distant, presents a problem that cannot properly be left to an administrative official where his decision may seriously hamper important enterprise.

"The Volstead Act, which gives effect to the Eighteenth Constitutional Amendment, may not be a model of legislation, but it at least defines what it means by an intoxicating beverage. The test can be made by chemical analysis. If the authors of that act had had the same notions of legislation as the framers of S. 4264, they would have left the determination of the question whether a beverage was substantially intoxicating to an

administrative official. Even so, it would be more practical than the Capper-Hope bill, because the agent could always try a bottle on himself and await results.

"The Bureau of Animal Industry, which now has charge (Heaven help us!) of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration, has many able chemists and biologists on its staff, but its scientific resources will be strained when it becomes necessary to determine whether the operations at a concentration point for hogs at Smith's Crossing has a 'substantial' effect on the prices at a given public market; or, indeed, what degree of effect may properly be described as 'substantial.' What you need is a philologist.

"I call your attention also to the fact that nothing in subdivision (b) excludes from the definition of a stock-yard a farm or pasture which may be used by the operator to assemble cattle for resale. It might be claimed that such an operation had a substantial effect on prices of stockers and feeders at one of the minor public markets. And conceivably it might have such an effect. It is not any use to say that no secretary would do this, that, or the other thing which he would have power to do under the bill. We have a right to expect that legislation be so drawn as to be beyond the need of such mental reservations. Accuracy of definition should be the first care of a lawmaker.

"There is much more that I might say. I am not attempting a full reply to your printed letters—still less a complete analysis of the bill. This has already, perhaps, exceeded the decent limits of a letter. I shall await your answer with interest. In any case, incomplete as this is, you have my authority to publish it, if you get out a second edition of your pamphlet.

"One thing I must add, though. The attitude of the American National Live Stock Association toward the packers has not been changed by the improvement in cattle prices. It has not been changed at all. We believed eight years ago, as we believe today, that the packers are entitled to a square deal—and no more.

"Very truly yours,

"C. M. O'DONEL."

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

EROSION

THE WASTE FROM SOIL EROSION throughout the United States is so tremendous as to constitute a problem of national significance. It is estimated that not less than 126,000,000,000 pounds of plant-food material are annually removed from our fields and pastures through rain-wash, involving a tangible yearly loss to our farmers amounting to at least \$200,000,000.

In Circular No. 33, "Soil Erosion a National Menace," recently issued from the press of the Government Printing Office, H. H. Bennett, soil scientist, and W. R. Chapline, inspector of grazing, of the Department of Agriculture, discuss the agencies and manner of erosion, its effects, and means for its control. Of conditions on western grazing lands, Mr. Chapline says that corrective action must be taken soon, if far greater damage is to be obviated.

"Owners of range land should consider the use of their land, not alone for immediate gain, but still more in the light

of the future productivity of the range, the protection of water supply, and stream-flow regulation. Overgrazing should be stopped at once; control or regulation of the badly abused unappropriated and unreserved public domain should not be longer delayed by the federal government. Arroyo-cutting must be checked by engineering works, and the establishment of vegetation in the bed and on the sides of the arroyos. Range landowners, irrigationists, and the state and federal governments should band together to use every available means for checking erosion, floods, and inadequate water supply at their source, on the slopes, in gullies, and on small drainages of the watersheds. The federal government has a direct responsibility, since federal lands occupy such a large part of the West.

"The main obstacle to action, and one that has greatly delayed remedial measures, has been lack of information as to the seriousness of the situation and as to concrete things which should be done under specific conditions. Without this information it is possible to work only in a broad way, rather than to attain a permanent control of erosion on range lands in a really constructive and economical manner. In view of the important part that herbaceous and shrubby vegetation plays in controlling erosion of such lands, it is essential that research

determine just what is the optimum stand of vegetation that can be made to grow on the widely varying soil types and under the extreme climatic conditions of the West, and the influence of this vegetation on water supply. It is equally important to know more concretely just what grazing use can be allowed under each of the main range and watershed conditions to assure profitable live-stock production and a maximum of protection to the soil. Along these lines research is already doing its best to help the stockman and range landowner, but hardly more than a start has as yet been made. Faced with so big a problem, research needs the most earnest encouragement and support."

This instructive pamphlet, which may be had from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 25 cents a copy, is richly illustrated with reproductions of photographs showing eroded areas in different parts of the country.

GRAZING ON NATIONAL FORESTS

DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1927, 1,459,566 cattle and horses and 6,412,700 sheep and goats were grazed on the national forests of the United States. For the previous year the numbers were 1,513,810 and 6,193,167, respectively. In other words, there were 54,244 fewer cattle and horses, but 219,533 more sheep, grazed last year than in 1926. The number of permittees shows corresponding changes.

The loss in cattle and gain in sheep were heaviest in Arizona, where nearly 25,000 fewer cattle, or 46 per cent of the total loss for the year, and over 81,000 more sheep, or 37 per cent of the total increase, were grazed in 1927 than in 1926. Only two states—Colorado and Wyoming—showed a growth in the number of cattle. Idaho and Montana, on the other hand, had slight diminutions in sheep.

Fifteen per cent of all the cattle and 25 per cent of all the sheep in the eleven western range states are grazed on the national forests, we are told. The inability of the Forest Service to take care of all the applications received is due to the fact that ranges have already been fully stocked.

By states, numbers of animals grazed on forests throughout the West in 1927 were as below:

	Horses and Cattle	Sheep and Goats
Arizona	211,190	341,987
California	161,544	436,960
Colorado	296,202	1,015,635
Idaho	132,837	1,300,125
Montana	132,453	554,145
Nebraska	10,861	.....
Nevada	56,699	307,890
New Mexico	93,259	232,612
Oklahoma	2,731	.....
Oregon	93,007	627,171
South Dakota	27,295	19,574
Utah	120,113	755,895
Washington	11,218	168,372
Wyoming	107,358	649,670

BIG GAME ON NATIONAL FORESTS

GRATIFYING INCREASES in most species of big game animals on national forests are shown by estimates of forest officers as of December 31, 1927. Of antelopes there were found to be about 10 per cent more than on the corresponding date in 1926, due to well-enforced protective laws. Where these animals have the run of the open range, they multiply at a satisfactory rate. In fenced inclosures they do not do so well, and the little band on the Wichita National Forest in Oklahoma, sharing the pasture and care of that government preserve with the buffalo and the Longhorn, is barely holding its own.

In spite of liberal open seasons, there is a steady increase, amounting to about 5 per cent annually, in the number of deer. On the Stanislaus Forest in California, where approximately 22,000 deer were killed in 1925 during the foot-and-mouth epidemic, recovery has been unexpectedly rapid. On the other hand, the Kaibab herd in northern Arizona, about which the Forest Service and the state government have been at odds, seems to have reached the limit of its food supply, with the consequence that a large percentage of the previous season's fawn crop has starved to death during the past two winters. The herd now contains around 28,000 head.

Out of the Jackson Hole elk band, 1,000 animals were killed by hunters during the 1927 season, and 1,500 were taken from the Yellowstone herd. But this was not enough to offset the natural increase. Some states have announced open seasons on these animals, in order to keep the number down to the capacity of the available range.

Mountain goats and sheep show small increases, but moose appear to be getting scarce on most forests. Black and brown bears (which in reality are but one species, varying only in coloration) are credited with an increase over 1926 of about 10 per cent, for which the fact that these animals are now classified as game, with partial protection, is held responsible. Outside of Alaska, whose giant brown bear is grouped with the grizzly for the purposes of this census, there now remain only 880 members of the latter race on all the national forests of the United States, half of which are in Montana. "The buffalo," we are told, "was never half as near total extinction as is the grizzly today."

Beavers continue to increase in every part of the West. Their value to irrigationists has been well established, and the income from pelts taken from surplus animals is an important source of income to state game funds.

The census for 1927 revealed these totals, as compared with 1926:

	1927	1926
Antelopes	7,665	6,942
Bears—		
Black or brown	51,017	47,865
Grizzlies	3,380	5,814
Caribou	35	174
Deer	700,586	671,056
Elk	74,179	82,478
Moose	7,950	7,192
Mountain goats	19,334	18,418
Mountain sheep	13,248	13,285

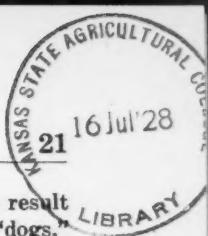
MR. TENNY RESIGNS

EFFECTIVE JULY 16, Lloyd S. Tenny has resigned as chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, to accept a position with the Associated California Fruit Industries. Mr. Tenny joined the Department of Agriculture in 1902, immediately following his graduation from the University of Rochester, New York. From 1910 to 1913 he was engaged in farming in New York state, and between 1914 and 1918 was secretary and manager of the Florida Fruit Growers' and Shippers' League. Rejoining the government service in 1921, he became assistant chief of the Bureau of Markets, and in 1926 was appointed to the post from which he now retires.

In accepting Mr. Tenny's resignation, Secretary Jardine gives him high praise for his able administration of the bureau.

To succeed Mr. Tenny, Nils A. Olsen has been named. Mr. Olsen joined the Department of Agriculture in 1919, and has been assistant chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in charge of research, since 1925.

If your subscription has expired, please renew.



THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN JUNE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., July 1, 1928.

A PHENOMENAL YEARLING MARKET and unseasonal prices for grass cattle featured June trade. Heavy cattle were consistently bad actors, showing little action until late in the month, when they gained 40 to 50 cents per cwt. Conditions of the corresponding period last year, when heavy bullocks outsold yearlings and light cattle, were reversed, the "babies" taking the lead by selling up to \$15 at a time when \$14.50 was the limit on big bullocks. Long yearlings in the 1,000- to 1,050-pound class also outsold big cattle. Supply of cheap, light steers, cows, and butcher heifers was unseasonally, if not unprecedentedly, short, measured by the whole crop, which, in the main, was a package of well-conditioned steers and baby-beef heifers, the latter having been the underdogs of the market, but, under new conditions, elevated to front rank.

Bear Campaign Meets with Temporary Success

Along about the middle of June, killers, in accordance with custom, concluded that the moment was opportune to inaugurate the early summer raid on grassers; and temporarily the bear campaign was successful. But during the last week of the month the surprising spectacle of a boom in these grades in June was witnessed. While prime heavy steers had to be content with \$14.75 to \$14.90, light cattle that were merely good fleshy feeders were eligible to \$13.50, and such steers as realized \$12.50 to \$13.25 were "not much" from a beef standpoint. Late in June the long string of fed-steer sales was made at a narrow range of \$14 to \$14.75, which embraced everything from baby-beef heifers to choice kosher steers. Such cattle as realized \$14.80 to \$14.90 were distinct specialties, weight cutting little figure, but always lack of weight facilitated getting stuff over the scales.

Market Shows Degree of Stability

It has, however, been a reasonably stable market, which is unusual at high price-levels. Heavy steers varied about 50 cents per cwt. during the month; good light cattle and yearlings, not to exceed 25 cents; and medium grades, from \$14 down, little more. Measured by past performance, it was an inconsistent market, especially as carcasses of \$12.50 steers actually cost more on the hooks than those of finished bullocks costing \$14.50. One reason for this was the large proportion of steers selling above \$14, and the limited percentage of medium and common cattle, including cows and heifers. Nothing was cheap except good cattle. Frequently everything sold higher except the top.

Demand Continues Best for Cheaper Grades

This year the usual May and June run of cheap cattle did not materialize, and there is always a broad market for the cheaper grades of beef at that season. Two years ago the spring market was shot to pieces by a continuously heavy movement of reactor cows from the dairy districts that gave the steer market a bad start, culminating in the debacle of late summer and early fall. Anticipation of another grist of this bovine trash prompted feeders of common cattle to get to mar-

ket early, and, as usual, the unexpected happened. The result was that killers paid \$12 for steers that were merely "dogs," and paid abnormally high prices—\$10 to \$12.50—for dry-fed cows. All kinds of heifers from \$10 to \$14 found the best market in trade history, under normal conditions, and late in June killers were under the necessity of parting with \$10 to \$11 for grass heifers and \$8 to \$10 for grass cows. Canning cows at \$6.25 to \$6.75, and cutters up to \$8 at the high time, registered demand for cheap beef, in contrast with a sluggish market for good heavy cattle selling from \$13.75 to \$14.25.

All Precedents Set Aside

A condition developed where common and choice beef carcasses sold at the narrowest spread in trade history, or \$17 to \$22, against \$10 to \$21 at the corresponding time last year. Such abnormal conditions are invariably remedied in course of time, which will be the case in this instance; but, temporarily, it was a topsy-turvy market, ignoring all convention and precedent, and incidentally creating an impression that cheap cattle will sell well all summer, especially if feeders come into the market.

June Develops Material Advance in Hogs

An advance of \$2.50 per cwt. in hogs from the low spot in February, when \$8.25 was the top, until late in June, when \$11.15 was paid, merely made good prediction on that score. Packers, who were rampant bears at a time when they were putting up droves below \$8, turned front when drove cost went above \$10, actually supporting the market in the absence of shipper competition. The break occurred in May instead of June this year, the latter month developing a rip-roaring bull market, with the big packers out on the front line. Heavy packing sows sold out of line with choice heavy butchers, but, reversing the course of last year's market, pigs and underweights were sharply discounted, due to an increasing proportion of skippy, light, and grassy shotes, unloaded owing to scarcity and cost of corn. The June movement was of fairly liberal volume, discrediting the summer shortage theory, but the proportion of smooth, high-dressing hogs steadily dimin-

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ished. The advance revived confidence in producing circles at an opportune moment, and will doubtless restrain summer liquidation of breeding stock. A buoyant fresh-meat market, together with revival of the smoked-meat trade, and a fair budget of export orders, which made a good market for heavy butchers, exerted a stimulating influence on values. The somewhat heavy stock of meats and lard in packers' cellars, put away during the long period of cheap hogs, became good property at the higher scale of prices, and will doubtless be merchandised at substantial inventory profits, especially if the summer hog run lacks finish, which is the rule when corn is high. All the handwriting on the wall points to a summer and fall market exactly the reverse of what happened a year ago, when the country was full of corn, and, in an effort to get rid of it, hogs, especially packing sows, were carried into extreme weight. Other meats are costly, and hog product must replenish the national larder.


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Short-Lived Flurry in Lambs

An early-June flurry in the lamb market, which sent the advance guard of the northwestern lamb crop to a \$19 to \$19.35 basis, was short-lived. In the subsequent crash the market dropped to a \$16 to \$16.50 basis, reacting to \$16.50 to \$17 late in June, with a few at \$17.25. Usually the lamb market does not get its summer stride until after the Fourth of July, which will probably be the case this year. Fat sheep had a terrific slump, reaching \$6 to \$6.75 on handy-weight and \$4.50 to \$5 on heavy ewes toward the end of June. Feeders paid \$12.75 to \$13.25 for the few thin western lambs available, that branch of the trade showing a weak undertone. California lambs were short this year, and early-dropped lambs from Idaho, Washington, and Oregon ran freely at an unusually early season, for which the sharp mid-June break was largely responsible. A liberal sprinkling of natives also contributed to the crash. It is probable that the lamb market will continue on a high level all summer, unless the reported, but disputed, heavy increase in native lambs shows up later.

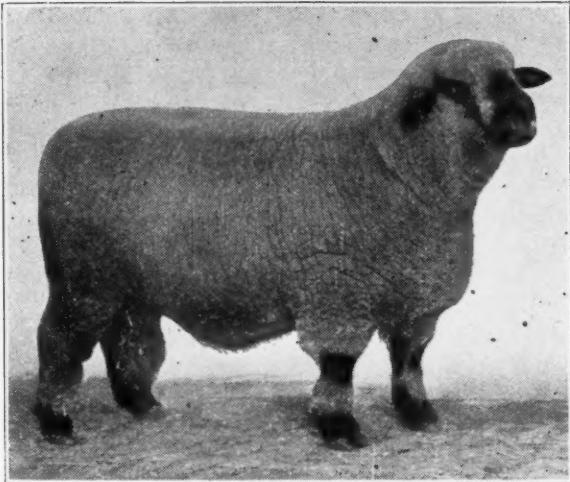
STOCKER MARKET SHOWS NO SIGNS OF WEAKENING

J. E. P.

JUNE SLIPPED BY without the customary break in stock-cattle prices. The market held "stiff as a cat's back" all the way through. Early in the month a dry area in the Northwest created apprehension of necessity to load distressed cattle. In fact, a few strings actually reached Chicago from the Dakotas. But timely rains averted threatened calamity. Just as Montana faced a crisis, the whole state was thoroughly wetted down. Cattle-holders are stiff in their ideas of values, in striking contrast to their psychological condition a year ago, when timidity pervaded the camp, and speculators reaped a harvest in consequence. Under present conditions, a speculator driving the country in quest of cattle cannot make gas money. Jim Watson, of Montana, failed to pick up a single load of steers on a recent thousand-mile drive, where a trainload was available last year. Not that cattle have entirely gone, but they are in strong hands and cannot be reached at prices which traders figure will give them an opportunity to make a dollar on the turn-over. This year there will be no need to invoke legal protection to insure fall delivery of cattle contracted early in the season.

Everything wearing a hide, regardless of color, conformation, or ancestry, is moving countryward out of stocker alleys at the markets, at the highest prices since the war. Beef-makers are paying \$9 to \$9.50 for "dogs," and around \$10 there is little improvement in quality. To get anything decent in the steer line, it is necessary to pay \$11 and up. One reason why more \$12 cattle have not been going to the country from the markets is that killers are asserting prior right to any critter with a beef covering, or carrying a little tallow, and scarcity of corn has repressed summer-feeding energy.

East of Chicago there is an insistent demand for cattle. Michigan, which has been getting into summer grazing on areas that have not been profitably farmed, has been a free purchaser. Buyers resorting to scouting in the middle South have found that pursuit somewhat illusive. A central Illinois man ransacked the entire Ozark region of southern Missouri recently, and, as he was a pioneer in that field, succeeded in contracting around 900 head for September 15 delivery, costing around \$9 per cwt. at the loading point. "You'll throw a fit when you see them, but they are cattle and can eat feed," he remarked on his return. This scouring process will prob-



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ably denude the whole country of mongrel cattle by the time feed-lots are filled next fall—provided, of course, that they are filled.

Statistics indicate a somewhat free movement of stockers from the central markets to the country; but, as usual, such statistics, while not deceptive, do not reflect the real situation, as there has been only a miniature direct movement around the markets from pastures to feed-lots, whereas at the corresponding period of 1927 that trade was on a trainload basis. Commission-house orders have accumulated right along, and the week-end clearance at the markets has been facilitated by the presence of country buyers.

The whole region east of Chicago is short of stock cattle. This applies to such states as Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and the Virginias. Kentucky may be added to the list, and they will be in the market until snow flies next winter, the probability being that there will be no more signs of the usual November break than last year. Cattle may be high—in fact, that is the burden of the complaint; but it is evident that there will not be enough to go around, and feeders, who have had the benefit of wide margins between initial and selling prices recently, must be resigned to new conditions.

Corn will cost less—a fortunate circumstance. Probably the farm-renter and his landlord will be responsible for another corn-surplus hullabaloo, but feeders will not participate in any scream of that tenor. Current experience has driven home the fact that, while cheap corn may not be desirable, when that commodity sells around a dollar feeders are in hard luck. The present corn prospect never was better. The area planted was large, it went in on a dry seed-bed, insuring deep rooting, and it has thrived on timely, abundant rain, creating a possibility of a bumper crop that was so far along toward maturity early in July as to be definitely out of the way of frost.

Of feeders' intentions the subscriber is ignorant, knowing no more on that subject than the "wise guys" down in Washington who specialize thereon. Many feeders assert intention not to lay in a steer this fall. But they will when the time comes around. High prices will probably restrict farm feeding operations, which would not be an unmixed evil. Too many farm feeders overbuy in the fall, creating necessity for letting cattle go prematurely—a recognized evil.

But one fact may be asserted without fear of successful contradiction: it is that there will be no cheap stock cattle this fall.

THE DENVER MARKET

BY W. N. FULTON

DENVER, COLO., July 2, 1928.

FURTHER MARKETING OF CATTLE from the feed-lots in Denver territory was the order during the month of June. A few years ago, packers had difficulty in securing enough good fat cattle to meet their requirements at this time of the year, as the majority of the stock was marketed by the first of June. However, many feeders are now following the example of those in the Corn Belt districts, and holding fed stock for marketing during the late spring and early summer. This practice they find highly satisfactory.

Good-quality fat steers were selling on the Denver market early in June at \$12.50 to \$13.50; at the close of the month they were bringing from \$13 to \$14.25, while the top for choice-quality, well-finished steers was \$14.50, freight paid—the highest price of the present season here, and also the highest for several years. Cows that were selling around \$10.50 to \$11.25 a month ago were moving at the close of the month at around \$10 to \$10.75, with a few choice light cows up to \$11. Heifers, for which salesmen were able to obtain from \$12.50 to \$13.75 early in June, were selling at the close at \$13 to \$14, the latter being the top price of the season, and also the highest price paid for heifers on this market for several years. Stockers and feeders, on which quotations were ranging from \$10.50 to \$12.50 early in the month, were quoted at about the same prices at the close. However, comparatively few stocker and feeder cattle are coming to market at this time.

Hogs.—Hog-marketing was fairly liberal, the receipts being very much the same as one year ago. Trade was slow at times, due to the fact that packers received a great many hogs direct, but the yards were well cleared from day to day, and prices at the close of the month were considerably higher than those prevailing thirty days previously. Good-quality hogs topped the market early in June at \$9.40; by the middle of the month they had gone to \$9.65, while at the close desirable killers sold largely at \$10.25 to \$10.40, the latter being the top price.

While Colorado is reported as having a pig crop considerably larger this spring than a year ago, the country as a whole is short, and indications point to continued high prices for hogs during the summer and fall. A great deal, of course, depends on the corn crop as to just what the hog market will do. However, it appears reasonably certain that the rancher who has good hogs to sell during the next six months or one year will find a good demand and highly satisfactory prices for them.

Sheep.—Sheep trade was fairly active during the month, but prices moved steadily downward, as is usual at this time of the year, when spring lambs begin to move marketward in volume. Receipts at Denver were quite liberal. Desirable fat

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spring lambs were selling at the beginning of June up to \$18 a cwt., but a few days before that time had registered a top of \$18.35. The market "hit the toboggan" steadily early in the month, until by the mid-month session the top price was \$15. Some fluctuation was registered since that time, but at the close of the month good-quality, well-finished lambs were quoted only at \$15.25. Ewes which sold from \$6.75 to \$7 early in the month were selling around \$6 to \$6.25 at the close. The demand for lambs was good from day to day, and everything offered was disposed of, although at times the trade was a little slow, as is usually the case on a declining market.

Local dealers anticipate rather a quiet market during the coming month, but the general impression prevails that lamb prices have hit bottom for the present, and that there will be very little, if any, further decline. The western lamb crop is reported to be fairly good and not unduly heavy, and the impression is general in the West that good feeding lambs will be in strong demand throughout the summer and fall seasons.

Horses.—Horse trade was active, with prices ruling generally steady throughout the month. Receipts were just about normal for this time of the year, and the inquiry continues on a very satisfactory basis. Dealers quote good-quality heavy work-horses and good big mules at \$125 up. Chunks are selling around \$80 to \$115, while lighter-weight horses are going at from \$60 to \$80. Light unbroke horses are going at anywhere from \$40 down.

THE PACIFIC COAST MARKET

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., June 27, 1928.

THE STABILITY of coast cattle markets this year has been attributed to the steady demand for California cattle to be shipped east. Coast packers for the past month or so have assumed a bearish attitude and have bought largely on a hand-to-mouth basis, according to the Western Cattle Marketing Association.

The coast markets show signs of improvement, however, as the out-of-state demand continues to reduce supplies of grass cattle, and there is no indication of a market upset. Good steers have been moving readily to both coast buyers and eastern buyers at \$10.50 to \$10.75, f. o. b. railroad, while good cows are bringing \$8 to \$8.25, and heifers \$9 to \$9.25. The calf market is showing strength, as supplies are limited.

Half-fat steers continue to be in demand with feeder-buyers. More steers of this class are going back to ranches for further finishing than in previous years.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELLOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on June 1, 1928, as compared with June 1, 1927, and average holdings on that date for the last five years (in pounds):

Commodity	June 1, 1928	June 1, 1927	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	21,048,000	28,719,000	37,049,000
*Cured beef.....	16,499,000	21,694,000	24,691,000
Lamb and mutton	1,235,000	1,210,000	2,308,000
Frozen pork.....	290,513,000	211,742,000	184,425,000
*Dry salt pork....	169,512,000	143,143,000	168,540,000
*Pickled pork....	454,700,000	432,965,000	429,160,000
Miscellaneous.....	65,636,000	60,978,000	64,981,000
Totals.....	1,019,143,000	900,451,000	911,154,000
Lard.....	185,579,000	111,976,000	113,915,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-seven markets for the month of May, 1928, compared with May, 1927, and for the five months ending May, 1928 and 1927:

RECEIPTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*.....	1,888,310	1,348,394	5,590,416	6,034,496
Calves.....	610,435	607,151	2,644,681	2,724,569
Hogs.....	3,723,225	3,612,973	22,417,508	18,069,430
Sheep.....	1,952,216	2,012,750	8,438,179	8,297,802

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*.....	520,574	559,483	2,321,836	2,368,270
Calves.....	161,709	172,036	734,708	767,136
Hogs.....	1,295,606	1,215,971	8,100,341	6,527,173
Sheep.....	993,905	1,063,658	3,910,833	3,960,786

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*.....	262,727	214,684	1,042,763	930,420
Calves.....	20,652	20,557	95,547	89,145
Hogs.....	65,958	72,094	361,801	51,065
Sheep.....	204,947	258,686	651,329	860,871

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Cattle*.....	666,560	759,629	3,183,012	3,566,719
Calves.....	453,822	441,464	1,931,274	1,983,172
Hogs.....	2,420,154	2,379,704	14,289,158	11,515,207
Sheep.....	950,604	951,336	4,518,525	4,344,378

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

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COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES showing prices on the principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on July 2, 1928, compared with June 1, 1928, and June 29, 1927:

	July 2, 1928	June 1, 1928	June 29, 1927
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$15.00-15.50	\$14.25-14.75	\$12.35-14.30
Good	14.25-15.00	13.25-14.25	10.75-13.65
Choice (1,100 lbs. down)	15.00-15.50	14.25-14.75	11.40-13.15
Good	14.10-15.00	13.25-14.25	10.10-12.25
Medium (800 lbs. up)	12.50-14.25	11.75-13.25	8.60-10.60
YEARLING STEERS:			
Good to Choice	14.00-15.50	13.25-14.75	9.75-12.40
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice	11.25-15.25	10.75-14.25	8.50-11.65
COWS:			
Good to Choice	9.75-12.00	9.00-11.75	6.75- 9.75
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:			
Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	11.75-13.00	11.75-13.00	8.50- 9.50
Common to Medium	9.50-11.75	9.50-11.75	7.00- 8.50
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	11.75-13.00	11.75-12.90	8.25- 9.50
Common to Medium	9.25-11.75	9.50-11.75	6.50- 8.25
HOGS:			
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)	10.25-11.15	9.40-10.00	8.75- 9.40
LAMBS:			
Medium to Choice	13.50-16.35	13.25-17.10	11.75-14.35

HIDE MARKET STRONG

J. E. P.

HIDES HAVE PICKED UP RECENTLY. After the June clean-up, holders became firm in their ideas of values. No doubt advances could be readily obtained on practically all selections. As a consequence, conditions are more or less nominal, and will continue so until the new levels are established by actual trading. In the meantime, all descriptions are nominally priced at last sale levels. Heavy native steers and light native cows are bringing 22½ cents. Heavy native cows last sold at 22 cents. Heavy Texas and butt-branded steers changed hands at 22 cents, as well as extreme light Texas steers and branded cows. Light Texas and Colorado steers last sold at 21½ cents.

Independent packer hides are strong, but the market is still unestablished on July stocks. Considerable interest is shown in these hides, but the smaller packers refuse to offer until new trading takes place on big packer hides.

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with the WILL C. BARNE'S D'HORNER**

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More in use than all other
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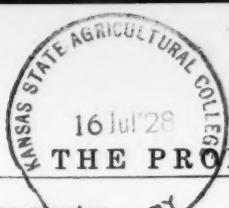
Country hides are stronger. All-weight merchandise is scarce, and when offered at all is held at 20 cents, selected, delivered. The heavy end is still slow, and 60-pound and over stocks are nominal at 18 cents, selected.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

Monday, July 2, 1928

CATTLE AND CALVES

	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA	DENVER
Good to Choice (1,500 lbs. up)	\$13.50-15.00	\$13.35-15.00	.....
Choice (1,300 to 1,500 lbs.)	14.35-15.00	14.25-15.00	.....
Good	13.50-14.35	13.35-14.25	.....
Choice (1,100 to 1,300 lbs.)	14.35-15.25	14.25-15.00	\$13.60-14.50
Good	13.50-14.50	13.35-14.25	12.65-13.60
Choice (950 to 1,100 lbs.)	14.50-15.25	14.25-15.25	13.65-14.50
Good	13.50-14.65	13.35-14.25	12.75-13.65
Medium (800 lbs. up)	11.75-13.50	12.00-13.35	11.25-12.75
Common	9.25-11.75	9.50-12.00	9.15-11.25
YEARLING STEERS:			
Choice (750 to 950 lbs.)	14.65-15.25	14.25-15.25	13.50-14.40
Good	13.50-14.65	13.25-14.25	12.40-13.50
HEIFERS:			
Choice (850 lbs. down)	14.25-15.00	13.50-14.65	13.10-14.15
Good	13.00-14.25	12.25-13.50	11.90-13.20
Common to Medium	8.75-13.00	9.00-12.25	8.40-12.00
Choice (850 lbs. up)	12.00-14.50	12.25-13.75	12.65-13.85
Good	11.00-13.50	11.00-13.25	11.50-12.90
Medium	9.00-12.25	9.50-12.00	9.35-11.85
COWS:			
Choice	10.00-11.00	11.00-12.00	10.75-11.65
Good	8.85-10.00	9.25-11.00	9.25-10.75
Common to Medium	7.00- 8.85	7.75- 9.25	7.35- 9.25
Low Cutters and Cutters	5.25- 7.00	6.00- 7.25	4.90- 7.35
BULLS:			
Good to Choice	8.75- 9.50	8.75- 9.75	8.30- 9.25
Cutters to Medium	6.75- 8.75	7.00- 8.75	6.50- 8.30
CALVES:			
Medium to Choice (500 lbs. down)	8.50-13.00	9.00-12.00	8.75-12.50
Culls to Common	6.50- 8.50	6.50- 9.00	6.00- 8.75
VEALERS:			
Good to Choice	11.50-15.00	11.50-13.50	13.50-16.00
Medium	9.50-11.50	10.00-11.50	11.00-13.50
Culls to Common	6.50- 9.50	6.50-10.00	6.75-11.00
FEEDERS AND STOCKERS—			
STEERS:			
Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	11.25-12.75	11.50-13.00	11.25-13.00
Common to Medium	8.75-11.25	9.00-11.50	8.75-11.25
Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	11.25-13.50	11.50-13.25	11.40-13.25
Common to Medium	8.75-11.25	8.75-11.50	8.75-11.40
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice	9.25-11.50	9.25-11.75	9.35-10.50
Common to Medium	8.00- 9.25	7.50- 9.25	7.65- 9.35
COWS:			
Good to Choice	7.50- 8.25	7.25- 8.50	7.50- 8.60
Common to Medium	6.25- 7.50	6.25- 7.25	6.50- 7.50
CALVES:			
Good to Choice	11.50-13.75	11.00-12.50	11.25-13.00
Medium	8.75-11.50	8.50-11.00	9.00-11.25
HOGS			
Heavy Weights, Medium to Choice	\$10.00-10.85	\$ 9.90-10.70	\$ 9.60-10.75
Medium Weights, Medium to Choice	10.10-10.90	10.10-10.70	10.10-10.75
Light Weights, Medium to Choice	9.25-10.80	9.25-10.55	9.50-10.75
Light Lights, Medium to Choice	8.15-10.25	8.25- 9.90	8.75-10.35
Packing Sows	8.25- 9.50	8.50- 9.65	8.50- 9.25
Slaughter Pigs, Medium to Choice	8.00- 9.25	.....	.....
Feeder and Stocker Pigs, Med. to Ch.	8.00- 9.25	7.25- 8.50	.....
SHEEP AND LAMBS			
LAMBS:			
Good to Choice (84 lbs. down)	\$14.50-15.75	\$14.25-15.50	\$14.25-15.00
Medium (92 lbs. down)	13.25-14.50	13.00-14.25	12.25-14.25
Culls to Common (all weights)	9.00-13.25	10.75-13.00	10.00-12.25
YEARLING WETHERS:			
Medium to Choice (110 lbs. down)	9.25-13.25	9.00-13.00	10.25-12.50
EWES:			
Medium to Choice (120 lbs. down)	4.75- 6.50	5.00- 6.50	4.50- 6.25
Medium to Choice (120 to 150 lbs.)	4.25- 6.00	4.25- 6.25	.....
Culls to Common (all weights)	1.00- 4.75	1.50- 5.00	.....



WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED MEATS

Friday, June 29, 1928

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

STEERS (heavy weights, 700 lbs. up) :	CHICAGO	NEW YORK
Choice	\$21.50-22.50	\$22.50-24.00
Good	20.50-21.50	22.00-23.50
STEERS (light and medium weights, 700 lbs. down) :		
Choice	22.50-23.50	23.50-24.50
Good	21.50-22.50	22.50-24.00
STEERS (all weights) :		
Medium	19.50-21.50	19.50-22.00
Common	17.50-19.50	18.00-19.50
COWS:		
Good	18.00-19.00	19.50-21.00
Medium	16.50-18.00	17.50-19.50
Common	15.00-16.50	17.00-18.00
VEALERS:		
Choice	22.00-24.00	23.00-26.00
Good	20.00-22.00	21.00-23.00
Medium	18.00-20.00	19.00-21.00
Common	16.00-18.00	17.00-19.00

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

LAMBS (30 to 42 lbs.) :		
Choice	\$31.00-33.00	\$30.00-33.00
Good	30.00-32.00	28.00-31.00
LAMBS (42 to 55 lbs.) :		
Choice	29.00-31.00	
Good	28.00-30.00	
LAMBS (all weights) :		
Medium	26.00-29.00	25.00-28.00
Common	22.00-26.00	22.00-25.00
MUTTON (Ewes) :		
Good	15.00-17.00	12.00-15.00
Medium	13.00-15.00	10.00-13.00
Common	10.00-13.00	9.00-11.00

FRESH PORK CUTS

LOINS:		
8-10 lb. av.	\$22.00-24.00	\$21.00-23.00
10-12 lb. av.	20.00-22.00	20.00-22.00
12-15 lb. av.	18.00-20.00	18.50-20.00
15-18 lb. av.	16.00-18.00	17.50-18.50
18-22 lb. av.	15.00-16.00	16.50-17.50

RISING WOOL PRICES MEET RESISTANCE

J. E. P.

CONCERTED EFFORT to restrain the rising tide of wool prices is evident. Fundamentally the situation is sound, but the market was going a lively clip recently. Cheaper wools are out of the question for several reasons, not the least important being that there is no more wool available than will be needed to satisfy manufacturers' needs. The salient features of the situation and the prospects are: Millmen are making no commitments for future needs, merely buying to satisfy urgent requirements; foreign markets are firm and optimistic; the new English clip is realizing unexpectedly high prices; manufacturers are willing to buy freely, "at a price;" changes in prices favorable to the buyer have been rare; medium wools are stronger than fine, both here and abroad; cross-bred wools are available later than Southern Hemisphere clips.

The political situation does not interest wool trade at the moment, as no tariff change can possibly become effective before 1930. Now that the speculative orgy in Wall Street has subsided, credit for legitimate business will be easier, which will facilitate carrying wool.

An undoubted shortage of foreign wool in this market gives added value to domestic holdings. Every pound of this

wool will be needed during the ensuing six months, if a reasonable volume of business in finished fabrics is done.

At the turn of the half-year the trade was in a waiting mood, and the market was somewhat spotty.

The movement of new-clip wool in the West has lessened appreciably, because the bulk of the new domestic clip has been moved from first hands already; in fact, wool merchants have dropped their limits throughout the West to a basis which is more in line with their ideas of values. This change is especially noticeable in Texas, where the sale of the Kerrville twelve-month wools, at a price understood to approximate 42 cents for wool estimated to shrink fully 61 per cent, or a clean cost landed Boston of, say, \$1.10 to \$1.12, indicates the fact that the wool-dealers have determined to buy their wools on a reasonable basis. In the contracting earlier in the season the cost of these wools was pushed up to \$1.15 to \$1.18 clean landed Boston, which was felt to be out of line with the cost of similar wools from other states.

At the recent sale in Kerrville there were offered 1,370,000 pounds of twelve-month wools and about 900,000 pounds of eight-month wools, the former being sold to a Boston house, while the latter was withdrawn and held for 38½ cents, on which two Boston houses successively held options. This wool, it is figured, would show a shrinkage of 61 to 62 per cent.

Elsewhere through the far West there has been little business done lately. There has been little to buy in most states, and that held at extreme prices. In New Mexico, buyers have been looking over the clip, but very little has been done there as yet, especially with the lower tendency in prices in Texas.

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13 Dexter Park Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

TRADE REVIEW

FOREIGN

MAY'S FOREIGN TRADE

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES over the previous month, and over May of 1927, were recorded in both exports and imports for May, the gain in exports being largely attributable to heavier shipments of cotton, wheat, automobiles, and petroleum. Excess of gold exports for the month reached a total of \$81,721,000. The commerce figures were as below:

	May		Eleven Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Exports.....	\$423,000,000	\$393,140,000	\$4,611,134,000	\$4,611,134,000
Imports.....	355,000,000	346,501,000	3,831,207,000	3,897,132,000
Excess of exports.	\$ 68,000,000	\$ 46,639,000	\$ 657,975,000	\$ 714,002,000

EXPORTS OF MEATS IN MAY

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS and animal fats from the United States for the month of May and the five months ending May, 1928, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1927, were as below (in pounds):

BEEF PRODUCTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Beef, fresh.....	158,475	127,053	860,690	847,200
Beef, pickled.....	875,221	1,031,470	3,398,020	6,929,396
Beef, canned.....	131,533	259,118	1,011,482	1,432,151
Oleo oil.....	6,631,137	8,063,094	27,515,184	39,719,833
Totals.....	7,796,366	9,480,735	32,785,376	48,928,580

PORK PRODUCTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1928	1927	1928	1927
Pork, fresh.....	976,941	577,968	6,435,479	3,562,164
Pork, pickled.....	3,084,527	2,720,154	13,670,041	10,796,095
Bacon.....	9,692,364	7,851,864	57,462,860	43,492,974
Cumberland sides.....	571,463	675,632	2,552,989	2,244,263
Hams and shoulders.....	11,390,286	13,091,777	55,851,633	51,735,425
Wiltshire sides.....	56,993	15,000	341,884	185,888
Sausage, canned.....	174,025	274,082	965,425	1,768,604
Lard.....	55,540,310	64,418,395	243,554,888	294,528,868
Lard compounds.....	277,916	610,297	2,110,512	5,129,925
Neutral lard.....	2,714,453	1,895,220	12,985,291	9,601,001
Totals.....	84,479,278	92,130,389	395,931,002	423,045,157

FEEDSTUFFS

ON JULY 3 cottonseed cake and meal, f. o. b. Texas points, was selling at \$55. October, November, and December shipments will be \$15 less. At Kansas City on July 2 the hay market was as follows: Alfalfa—No. 1 extra leafy, \$22 to \$24; No. 2 extra leafy, \$20.50 to \$21.50; No. 1, \$18.50 to \$20; No. 2 leafy, \$16.50 to \$18; No. 2, \$13 to \$16; No. 3, \$10 to \$12.50; prairie—No. 1, \$10 to \$12; No. 2, \$8 to \$9.50; No. 3, \$5 to \$7.50; timothy—No. 1, \$14.50 to \$16; No. 2, \$12.50 to \$14.50; No. 3, \$10 to \$12.

"You are putting out a mighty good paper for the live-stock interests."—BERT SHREEVES, Delta, Colo.

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, June 15, 1928.

EAT PRICES during the past two months have taken a rather unexpected turn upwards, and this firmed tendency has occasioned a good deal of discussion throughout meat circles. It was expected at the beginning of the year that the general trend would be toward cheaper meat, but the public and the trade have both learned once more how sensitive the whole meat business is to the eternal law of supply and demand. The two main factors which set prices on their upward turn were the lateness of home-killed lamb off the pastures, owing to climate, and the reduced shipments of meat from the Argentine, which in the first five months sent only 3,400,000 beef quarters, as compared with one million more in the same period of 1927. Fat cattle are at present selling at \$15.55 per live 112 pounds, and fat lambs of Down and cross-bred quality are now averaging 32 cents per pound. The imported-meat trade has felt the benefit in price of this change, and the firmness of forward values, in spite of the fact that nearly a million lamb carcasses arrived in Great Britain from New Zealand during May, indicates that the big business anticipates the dearer spell to continue this year.

W. Weddel & Co.'s annual review of the chilled and frozen-meat trade, now in its fortieth year of issue, discloses a year's trading fraught with disappointment, low returns, and, in some cases, serious loss. During the first four months of 1927 chilled and frozen beef was offered for sale in Great Britain at approximately pre-war prices. Importations of chilled and frozen meat into Great Britain during the whole of 1927 amounted to 946,776 tons, as against 930,035 tons in the preceding year. Chilled beef showed an increase of 36,692 tons, and frozen beef a decrease of 29,336 tons. The demand for imported meat on the continent received a further slight setback last year, due to the increased supplies and the low price of fresh-killed meat. The total shipments to continental destinations during the year amounted to 300,565 tons, as compared with 316,800 tons in 1926. It is estimated in the review that the total weight of beef, mutton, and lamb exported last year from the freezing-works of the world was 1,256,700 tons, as against 1,198,600 tons in 1926 and 1,138,900 tons in 1925. Last year was one of the most unsatisfactory that the present generation of British stock-raisers has experienced. Even breeding stock fell heavily in value, in sympathy with the drop in the price of fat stock. The review thinks that the solution of the breeders' problem is to be found in the substitution of better-bred bulls and rams for the indifferent animals which many of them now utilize. The review estimates the amount of home-grown meat available for consumption in 1927 at 819,900 tons of beef and 303,300 tons of mutton and lamb.

No question of more disturbing interest has been raised in the meat trade of Great Britain than that of the campaign now in progress against the unrestricted import of Argentine chilled meat, in view of the foot-and-mouth disease scare raised among home agriculturists. When, some time ago, the scientific pronouncement was made that it was possible for the infective virus of foot-and-mouth disease to remain active in

dead meat for as long as seventy-six days in a chilled condition, it was not anticipated that this scientific dictum could be made such a powerful trade influence as has since been proved. As it is, all those who are interested in home-produced meat, including the agricultural societies, members of the pedigree herd societies, graziers, and others, have combined to use this argument as pressure upon the government to place some restriction upon the immense imports of chilled beef which form such a large share of the meat supplies of Great Britain. Proposals as to the means of restriction have been bandied about between the several parties, but the suggestion which seems to have carried most weight was that which was put forward in Parliament, and promised the serious consideration of the government—namely, that a period of quarantine in cold storage at the British ports should be imposed upon beef imports from Argentina when they arrived in this country.

Examination of this proposal has revealed the fact that it means nothing less than the conversion of the chilled-beef trade into a frozen-beef trade for Britain; and everyone regards this as undesirable enough to be impossible. Nevertheless, all those who have the wish as father to their thought seem to be pursuing the question relentlessly, and some are hoping that an intensified campaign of agitation may tip the government over in this direction. These, however, have forgotten the fact that it is, after all, the popular vote which counts, and, seeing that the elimination of chilled beef would mean dear meat for Britain, it is extremely unlikely that such a measure could ever be placed upon the statute-book.

The public cold stores of the country have, during the past year, fallen upon evil times, as the various meat-contributing countries of the Southern Hemisphere have resorted to what is known in America as "orderly marketing," with the result that much lighter stocks are held in the country of consumption. In Liverpool one store-owner alone has three million cubic feet of cold storage temporarily closed down, and the position is not very much different in London, in spite of the fact that cold-storage rates have been reduced.

GREAT BRITAIN'S MEAT IMPORTS

TRADING IN IMPORTED MEAT during 1927 was unsatisfactory, according to the annual review published by W. Weddel & Co., British meat-importers. This was largely due to excessive supplies, forcing average quotations down below those of the preceding year. From January to April, chilled and frozen beef was actually sold wholesale at approximately pre-war prices—"probably the only article of food of which the same can be said."

While there was a slump of 35.6 per cent in imports of frozen beef, chiefly from Australia and New Zealand, chilled beef showed an increase of 14.1 per cent. Most of this latter comes from Argentina. Of mutton, 4.1 per cent less was imported than in 1926, but lamb rose by 16 per cent. In tons (presumably "long" tons of 2,240 pounds), total imports of chilled and frozen meats into the United Kingdom in 1927, as compared with 1926, and the sources from which they were drawn, were as follows:

	1927	1926
Australia	63,535	95,065
New Zealand	153,409	161,091
Argentina	654,740	583,712
Uruguay	45,281	64,135
United States	3,901	4,228
Other countries	25,910	21,804
Totals	946,776	930,035

Aggregate consumption of meat in the United Kingdom

in 1927, exclusive of pork and bacon, we read, was 2,048,645 tons, of which 54.8 per cent was home-grown and 45.2 per cent imported. For 1928, home production of beef, mutton, and lamb is expected to be maintained at a high level. As the general trade of the country is slowly improving, some increase in consumption at present prices is looked for.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Free Admission of Cattle Into Canada Ceases

Regulations providing for the temporary duty-free admission of cattle into Canada in bond, for the purpose of feeding or pasturage, conditional upon re-exportation within one year, have been canceled.

Germany to Pay Export Premium on Hogs

As part of an effort by the German government to improve the condition of agriculture, it has been decided to pay an export premium on hogs and hog meat. Besides, a fund of 30,000,000 marks (roughly \$7,000,000) has been made available to relieve the hog market of heavy offerings.

MARKET GRADES FOR CALVES AND VEALERS

A DETAILED DESCRIPTION of the tentative grading of calves has just been published by the Department of Agriculture in Circular 28-C, "Market Classes and Grades of Calves and Vealers." Immature cattle, according to Don J. Slater, federal marketing specialist, are at present designated by various names at different markets. At certain markets all are termed "calves," while at others they are called "vealers," and at still others some are known as "calves" and some as "vealers." The meat produced by cattle approximately three months old or younger is known in the trade as "veal," whereas carcasses produced by cattle over three months old are known as "calf carcasses." It is on the basis of these differences that the tentative grades of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are founded.

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ROUND THE RANGE

RANGE AND LIVE STOCK IN JUNE

Ranges.—Rains during May had resulted in a marked improvement of range feed in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, western Nebraska and Kansas, eastern Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah, according to the government report for June. In Montana, western South Dakota, Oregon, and California lack of moisture had resulted in a slight decline in range conditions. Lower ranges had become dry in Idaho and Washington. Summer range-feed prospects were generally good in the higher ranges and most other summer ranges, except that rain was needed in eastern Montana, western

South Dakota, Nevada, California, and parts of Arizona. Condition of ranges was estimated at 90 per cent of normal, compared with 85 per cent in May and 89 per cent a year ago.

Cattle.—Better feed had resulted in good gains in the condition of cattle, with a marked improvement in Texas and New Mexico, while a slight decline was shown in South Dakota, Nevada, and California. Cattle on the western ranges were in very good flesh. The calf crop had been good, with light losses. Local trading had been rather slow, but some calves had been contracted for fall delivery at \$37 to \$48. In Texas there had been considerable contracting, and some tendency to restock, while better feed

conditions had tended to check the northern movement. Restocking in most of the western country had been rather limited, due to present prices. Condition of cattle and calves was 90 per cent of normal, compared with 88 per cent in May and 89 per cent last year.

Sheep.—Sheep and lambs on western ranges were in fine condition, and, with better feed, lambs were making good gains. In Texas, sheep and lambs were gaining rapidly after the spring drought. Late lambing had been favorable in Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, Oregon, Colorado, and Utah. In New Mexico cold weather and rains had resulted in considerable losses, following dry conditions earlier in the season, while some lambs were lost in Texas from the effects of drought and cold rains. The loss of late lambs in Idaho was heavier than usual. California late lambs were doing fine. The early lamb crop in the West was generally larger than last year. A large number of feeder lambs had been contracted, with recent prices at 11½ cents and 12 cents asked. The bulk of the western wools, except in Texas, had been sold, with late prices in Montana and Wyoming ranging from 38 to 42 cents, and 44 to 45 cents for Texas long wool. Condition of sheep and lambs was placed at 93 per cent of normal, compared with 91 per cent in May and 92 per cent a year ago.

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Automatic Currying & Dipping Machine Co.,
Pender, Neb.

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I have sold several of your Currying and Dipping Machines, and am using one in each of my feed-lots. They are all giving good satisfaction and have paid for themselves many times. If put up properly, will last a great many years. I THINK ONE SHOULD BE IN EVERY FEED-YARD, and also pastures, as THEY ARE VERY VALUABLE IN FLY TIME.

Yours truly,
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CATTLE ON PASTURE IN FLINT HILLS AND OSAGE COUNTRY

Spring movement of cattle to the Flint Hills and Osage pastures of Kansas and Oklahoma this year amounted to about 463,000 head, which is 6 per cent more than last year and 16 per cent more than in 1926. The Flint Hills have about the same number as last season, according to a report of the Department of Agriculture, but there is an increase in the Osage territory.

Shipments into both sections were later than last spring and consist generally of lighter cattle. The out-movement is expected to be a little later than usual, except that some wintered-over cattle in the Flint Hills may move early. Pastures in both sections are in excellent condition, with good prospects for later feed.

SMALLER PIG PRODUCTION INDICATED

A decrease in the spring pig crop of 1928 of about 7 per cent from last year, for the United States as a whole and also for the Corn Belt states, is shown by the pig survey undertaken in June

by the Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the Post Office Department through the rural mail-carriers. This decrease is equivalent to approximately 4,000,000 pigs.

Reports of the number of sows bred or to be bred for farrowing in the fall likewise point to a decrease.

This curtailment in breeding operations is the natural result of the unsatisfactory prices that have prevailed during the past year.

FATTENING BEEF CATTLE IN CORN BELT

Besides improving the condition of a large number of cattle from the range, the fattening of steers in the Corn Belt tends to equalize the number of cattle slaughtered at different times of the year, according to an analysis of the methods and results of cattle-feeding in five representative sections of the Corn Belt, assembled by the Department of Agriculture in Technical Bulletin No. 23-T.

About one-third of the beef cattle marketed from the range are shipped to the feed-lots of the Corn Belt as stockers and feeders. Beef cattle are well adapted to the utilization of legume hay and such coarse roughages as corn-stalks and straw, which must have a place in a well-balanced crop rotation. These roughages, when fed with a liberal amount of corn in the ration, usually produce a higher grade of beef than that produced on grass alone.

The districts chosen for study typify three general methods in the fattening operation. In eastern Nebraska and southwestern Iowa standard management provides for dry-lot feeding with corn and legume hay, particularly alfalfa. Silage plays an important role in feeding enterprises in eastern Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana. The practice of fattening steers on grass pasture was the rule in the Missouri district studied.

LIVE-STOCK PARASITES

Parasites injure live stock on the farms and ranches of the United States probably to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars annually, according to Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. "Losses from parasites have been tolerated too long and accepted too complacently," says Dr. Mohler. "The live-stock industry cannot afford to let this situation continue, especially when certain parasites are exacting more and more tribute—more and more blood money."

As important pests Dr. Mohler men-

RED TOP GRAIN BINS



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2,200-acre ranch, with leases and forest permit controlling about 7,500 acres more; well watered; excellent breeding and winter pastures; some clover and alfalfa and farm land. Stocked with about 500 head of high-grade Hereford cattle, consisting of 175 cows and the increase up to four-year-old steers. Located in the north end of the Slim Buttes, Harding County, South Dakota. Write to

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10,000-acre sheep or cattle ranch, close to railroad; 50 per cent smooth land, well watered; two sets of improvements; well equipped for a sheep ranch; with outside range, will carry 10,000 sheep. Only \$3 per acre, about half cash. J. F. HUGGINS, Kit Carson, Colo.

FOR SALE

5,280-acre cattle ranch, equipped for cattle. Stream of pure soft water flowing through ranch for thirteen miles; controls lots of range; will carry 3,000 head of cattle; well improved. Price, \$6 per acre; good terms. J. F. HUGGINS, Kit Carson, Colo.

RANCHES, large or small, for sale, exchange or lease in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, California, Canada, Central and South Americas, Africa, and islands of the sea. J. D. FREEMAN, Gunter Bldg., San Antonio, Texas.

tions the nodular worms attacking sheep, which have been so troublesome in the South and now are spreading to the Middle West; the liver-fluke in the Rocky Mountain states and on the Pacific coast; the kidney-worms so widespread in hogs; stomach-worms in sheep; round-worms, tapeworms, and lung-worms, and the better-known, because more obvious, ticks, lice, and mites. The only way in which these parasitic losses can be stopped, Dr. Mohler believes, is through thorough and painstaking research work to reveal the life-histories of the parasites and discover the points at which they can be attacked most successfully. This research should then be followed by campaigns of education among live-stock growers for practical application.

These parasites do injury, as is commonly supposed, by sucking blood and by inflicting pain and irritation which interfere with the animal's rest and feed. But the injury does not cease with this. Some parasites produce poisons. Others make openings in the flesh and tissue which allow bacteria to enter. At times the accumulation of parasites in the body may be so great as to prevent the lungs, the kidneys, or the alimentary canal from functioning as they should.

RELATIVE WAGES

Wages as an index of living standards, and the extent to which the American workman is "well off," are emphasized by the following figures, which represent "real" wages—that is, the relative purchasing value of wages—in several of the large cities of the world on July 1, 1927, using London as the base at 100:

Philadelphia	178
Ottawa	156
Copenhagen	106
Dublin	102
London	100
Stockholm	92
Amsterdam	87
Berlin	67
Madrid	54
Paris	53
Milan	52
Brussels	48
Riga	48
Prague	46
Tallinn	46
Rome	43
Lodz	42
Vienna	41
Warsaw	37
Lisbon	31

Cause for Condolence.—F. B. writes: "A small girl in our neighborhood was reproved by her mother for calling a neighbor's child homely, and was told to go immediately and apologize. This is how she did it: 'I'm sorry, Alice, I said you were homely. I only meant that your face wasn't very becoming.'—Boston Transcript."

As a Sandwich.—Colored Woman—"Doctah, Ah's come to see ef yo am gwine order Rastus one o' dem mustard plasters ag'in today."

Doctor—"I think perhaps he better have one more."

Colored Woman—"Well, he says to ax yo' kin he have a slice o' ham wid it, 'count of it's a mighty pow'ful prescription to take alone."—Open Road.

A RANCH FOR SALE

FRANK J. SHALLER

CANADIAN, TEXAS

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Concerning Your Marketing Expense Dollar

DETAILED records kept by the National Live Stock Producers Association last year on the expenses incident to the marketing of 79,520 cars of cattle, hogs, sheep, and calves show that the owners paid nearly six millions of dollars to get this volume of live stock delivered to the buyers and sold.

The total head handled by species were:

Cattle	451,159
Calves	398,178
Hogs	3,574,846
Sheep	1,166,554
Total.....	5,590,728

Marketing expenses, with percentages of each item involved, were:

Freight and truck	\$3,544,912.47	59.6%
Operating	1,117,858.34	18.8%
Yardage	771,245.80	12.9%
Feed (corn and hay)	517,023.74	8.7%
Total.....	\$5,951,040.35	100.0%

Roughly speaking, this is a dollar per head. Of this dollar, 59.6 cents is freight paid at the terminal market. This represents only the freight expense accumulated on the last haul from the feeder to his market. It does not include transportation charges previously collected.

The above figures represent the business transacted by the following thirteen co-operative association members of

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Kansas City
St. Louis

Sioux City
Pittsburg

Cincinnati
Fort Worth
Chicago
Buffalo
Indianapolis

Cleveland
Evansville
Detroit
Peoria

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THE
LIVE STOCK MARKET
OF THE WORLD**